



A Weekly Journal of Pharmacy and the Drug-trade.

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"KNOWN, ADMITTED, AND APPROVED" REMEDIES.

THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY for 1904 will contain a collection of formulas for medicinal preparations in conformity with the requirements of the Special Exemption in the Medicine-stamp Act, 1812, as to qualified chemists—viz.:

All mixtures, compositions, or preparations whatsoever mixed or compounded with or prepared from medicinal drugs, medicated or chemical preparations or compositions, or other ingredients . . . the different denominations, properties, qualities, virtues, and efficacies of which mixtures, compositions, and preparations as aforesaid are known, admitted, and approved of in the prevention, cure, or relief of any disorder, malady, ailment, or complaint incident to or in anywise affecting the human body.

We can receive for inclusion in this collection during the present month from our subscribers formulas for preparations which have not hitherto been liable to stamp-duty, but which in consequence of their ailment-names will on and after December 31 have to pay duty unless the formulas are printed on the label or are otherwise made known. If printed in *THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY* it will suffice to state on the labels that preparations are so prepared. We do not propose to mention the source of any of the formulas.

Summary.

A NEW PHENACETIN-TEST is given on p. 377.

THE latest information about radium is given on p. 360.

THE origin of several synonyms for medicines is traced on p. 379.

WE make a few comments on the proposed Board of Reference (p. 364).

"XRAYSER" observes and reflects about last week's Educational Number (p. 361).

THE new President of the American Pharmaceutical Association is Mr. Lewis C. Hopp.

ANOTHER SACCHARIN-SMUGGLING CASE has been settled by the Wigan Justices (p. 349).

SOME of the new synthetic remedies have strange incompatibilities. Some of these are noted on p. 377.

CERTIFICATES of ORIGIN should be sent with goods imported into Natal from the United Kingdom (p. 348).

MR. E. H. GANE gives three simple tests by which the genuineness of cod-liver oil can be ascertained (p. 377).

A MAIDSTONE CHEMIST has been fined for selling medicines for internal use made with methylated spirit (p. 355).

TO TAX A TAX, as is proposed in Australia (p. 353), is, according to "Xrayser," the refinement of fiscal ingenuity (p. 361).

A CHILD at Morecambe has been poisoned by chlorate-of-potash tablets, which were given to cure a liking for sweets (p. 350).

MR. EDMUND WHITE has been appointed manager of Messrs. Hopkin & Williams's manufactory of fine chemicals (p. 337).

A MELBOURNE (VICTORIA) CHEMIST has been fined under the Shop-hours Act for keeping his shop open after hours (p. 353).

THE INLAND REVENUE REPORT for last year shows a large increase in the amount of medicine stamp-duty collected (p. 365).

DR. F. B. POWER has been awarded the Ebert Prize at the annual convention of the American Pharmaceutical Association (p. 376).

A PARAPHENYLENEDIAMINE HAIR-DYE has caused the seller to be mulcted in damages owing to the effect of the dye on the skin (p. 352).

A LONG ARRAY OF NEW COMPANIES, having amongst their objects the carrying on of the business of a chemist, is given on pp. 357-358.

THE PATENT-MEDICINE VENDORS' DEFENCE ASSOCIATION are collecting funds with which to fight the Pharmaceutical Society's monopoly (p. 364).

A CURIOUS CASE of the recovery of pharmaceutical diplomas which were lost during the progress of hostilities in South Africa is recorded on p. 380.

THE BOARD OF INLAND REVENUE have made a concession to chemists in the matter of declaring the contents of known, admitted, and approved remedies (p. 352).

THE veteran Brazilian scientist, Dr. Peckoldt, has been honoured by 113 of his scientific colleagues in Germany. The front cover of an album presented to him is reproduced on p. 360.

WE give a condensed report of the doings at the annual convention of the American Pharmaceutical Association. Some of the papers are of considerable practical value (p. 376).

THE meeting of the shareholders of Treacher & Co. (Limited), Bombay, was held *in camera*, as a result of which a committee was appointed to examine the accounts and stock, and to report (p. 358).

THE HOUSE OF LORDS have decided what an accident is within the meaning of the Workmen's Compensation Act. The point was raised on an appeal from the Court of Appeal by a workman who had been injured while making Thorley's food (p. 355).

A LADY PERFUMER, doing business in North Audley Street, W., was not satisfied with some Parma Violette perfume she had ordered, and refused to pay for it. The wholesaler sued her in the City of London Court, and, in spite of Madame's personal advocacy of her own case, the Judge decided against her (p. 356).

FLUCTUATIONS in drugs and chemicals are of minor importance this week and business in many quarters is quiet. Higher prices are asked for sulphur, owing to a sudden demand and spot scarcity. The Jamaica cyclone has affected pimento, but other W.I. products are mostly unchanged. Star-aniseed oil is higher. Opium is quiet, but firm; lime-juice and copper sulphate are easier. Pepper is lower. The closing of an old-established firm of brokers has been a fruitful topic in the "Lane" this week (p. 372).

Corner for Students.

CONDUCTED BY LEONARD DOBBIN, PH.D.

Students, please note. All communications should be addressed to the Editor of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

All communications and reports must bear the names and addresses of the writers, not necessarily for publication. The reports of those who ignore this rule are liable not to be dealt with.

QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS FOR JUNIOR STUDENTS.

A MIXTURE of not more than three salts will form the subject of the next exercise in qualitative analysis. The mixture will comprise acids and inorganic bases occurring in the British Pharmacopoeia, and is to be submitted to a thorough systematic examination, all its constituents are to be detected, and proof is to be given that the substances detected are the only constituents of the mixture.

Students' applications for portions of the mixture of salts (accompanied by a stamped and addressed envelope, not a stamp merely) will be received up to Tuesday, August 25, and the samples will be posted on the following day.

Students' reports will be received up to Saturday, September 5. Each report should contain a concise account of the work done, and should include a list of the constituents detected. In this list any substance regarded as an accidental impurity should be distinguished from the essential constituents of the salts composing the mixture.

SPECIAL NOTE.—The prizes in this series of analyses will be awarded only to apprentices or assistants who are preparing for the Qualifying examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain or of Ireland, which fact *must be attested on their reports*. Others may obtain specimens of the salts, and their reports will be separately adjudicated, but they will be regarded as *hors concours*. Correspondents who do not state that they are preparing for a qualifying examination will be included in the latter list.

English News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

Twenty-two youths employed in various capacities at the glass-bottle works of Messrs. Redfearn Bros., Barnsley, were each fined 5s. and 5s. costs for absenting themselves from work to attend a gala.

Stourbridge is to have a new technical school, at a cost of 8,440*l.*, where provision is to be made for the study of chemistry, botany, physics, and subsidiary branches suitable for the young pharmacist.

At Grimsby on August 13, "Professor" Parkes, herbalist, was summoned by his wife for a maintenance-order. The evidence of Mrs. Parkes and her daughter was to the effect that Parkes sold pills and medicines in the market-squares of different northern towns, and made a good thing out of it. The daughter estimated her father's weekly profits at 5*l.* The Bench made an order of 1*l.* a week against the defendant.

At a meeting of the Grantham Board of Guardians on August 17, a letter was read from the Local Government Board stating they had received a communication from the medical officer of the union (Dr. Eaton) as to the cost of drugs and medicine. In their opinion this cost ought to be borne by the Guardians and not by the medical officer. The Board decided to consider the matter when the appointment of a new medical officer is made.

South African Tariff.

The Agent-General of Natal in London has received the following information from the Natal Government: "In order to obtain rebate of duties on imports from the United Kingdom it will be necessary for importers to produce a certificate of the origin of goods signed by the manufacturer or other competent person as to the origin of the goods, which certificate may be endorsed for the time being on the invoice. It is intended that proper forms for obtaining such rebate of duty shall be prepared in the near future, but in the meantime considerable latitude will be allowed so long as satisfactory evidence is produced to the Customs authorities in Natal that goods are of British origin."

Sleeping Sickness.

The Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine will despatch to the Congo Free State next month an expedition to investigate trypanosoma. The expedition will report to the Liverpool School, and through them to the Free State Government, on the sanitary conditions of Boma, Leopoldville, and other important centres, and make recommendations for the amelioration of the existing sanitary conditions. They will continue the investigation of trypanosomiasis, human and animal, the carriers of the parasite, and the relation of trypanosoma to sleeping sickness. Ample opportunities will be afforded for observing sleeping sickness, and as the expedition will necessitate the examination of the blood of wild animals, the Congo State is making arrangements for the expedition to participate in drives of big game. The expedition is under the charge of Dr. J. E. Dutton, and he will be accompanied by Dr. J. L. Todd and Dr. C. Christy.

Fires.

On August 17 the works of the Britannia Soap Company, Warrington, was almost entirely destroyed by fire. The damage is estimated at about 4,000*l.*

On August 9 considerable damage was done by a fire at Pentrepoth Chemical-works, Morriston, near Swansea, owned by Messrs. F. W. Berk & Co. (Limited).

A serious fire broke out on August 14 at 136 Great Portland Street, W. The ground floor, occupied by Mr. Charles Smith, chemist, was almost burned out.

On August 13 a fire broke out at the shop of Mr. Frederick Adams, chemist and druggist, Pigott Street, Birmingham. Some furniture-polish was being made on the dispensing-counter, and it is supposed that the mixture became overheated. The flames were quickly extinguished before much damage was done.

Last week a fire broke out at the chemist's shop occupied by Mr. Irvine in Staines Road, Hounslow. The fire brigade was called up, and in about an hour and a half the flames were extinguished. The roof at the back of the house was found to be damaged. All the furniture was destroyed in the living-rooms as well as most of the contents of the shop. Mr. and Mrs. Irvine were away at the time of the outbreak, which is believed to have originated through the woodwork round the old-fashioned fireplace in the sitting-room being set alight by the embers which had been left in the grate.

Charges of Misappropriation.

At the Bournemouth Police Court on August 13, Charles Findlay, an errand-boy, was bound over on a charge of stealing 10s. from his employer, Mr. F. W. Hornby, pharmaceutical chemist, Christchurch Road, Boscombe.

At Middlesbrough on August 14 a schoolboy named Smith was sent to an industrial school for three years for stealing 2*l.* 16s. from Mr. D. G. Harrington, chemist and druggist, Middlesbrough, with whom he was employed.

At the South-west London Police Court on August 17 two boys, both fourteen years of age, were remanded on a charge of being concerned in the breaking and entering the establishment of Mr. Harry Foulds, chemist, 100 Balham High Road, S.W.

At West Ham Police Court on August 17 a labourer named Lush was sentenced to two months' hard labour for stealing 30 lbs. of old lead, value 4s., the property of Messrs. Spencer, Chapman & Messel (Limited), chemical-manufacturers, Silvertown.

A man named Moore was, at the County of London Sessions on August 14, sentenced to twelve months' hard labour for stealing fancy goods from Marion & Co. (Limited), Soho Square, W. The receiver, who had been previously convicted, was sentenced to twenty months' hard labour.

At Greenwich Police Court on August 14, James Wright was charged with attempting to obtain sums of money by means of a trick from two Deptford licensed victuallers. It was alleged that the accused visited the houses of the complainants with cans which he stated contained disinfectants ordered by the landlord. He tendered a bill for 12s. 6d. in each case, and in one instance the barman paid the money. Prisoner was remanded.

At Bradford on August 17 John Edward Pilgrim (32), chemist's assistant, was fined 10s. and 26s. costs, or fourteen days' imprisonment, for embezzling three sums of money, amounting to 32s., from his employers, Taylors' Drug Company (Limited). It was stated for the prosecution that the thefts had extended over a period of more than twelve months, and the total sum embezzled during that time was estimated at between 30l. and 40l. It was admitted that prisoner had worked up a good trade, and had been a valuable servant to the company, but that he had recently given way to drink.

The Coroner and Red Tape.

At an adjourned inquiry at Aberdare on August 15 into the death of a woman named Leah Jones, the Coroner made some strong comments on the red-tapeism which existed in Government Departments. A *post-mortem* examination of the body of the deceased had revealed symptoms which pointed to poisoning, and when the Coroner asked the Clerk of the Peace to order an analysis, he replied that he had no authority to permit expense for that purpose, and suggested that he should communicate with the Public Prosecutor. The Home Office, however, declined to take any action unless the Coroner could certify that there was a suspicion that a crime had been committed. The Coroner said he was unable to do this, and it was only after considerable pressure that the county analyst consented to make an analysis. He reported that there were slight traces of a substance which pointed to morphine, but he was unable to state definitely that there had been poisoning. The Coroner thought that when an analysis was needed it should be conducted by the county analyst without loss of time, as in the case of certain poisons a delay might cause an analysis to be useless. The jury passed a resolution calling upon the County Council to make provision for such analyses in future.

Hull Chemists' Buying Association.

A meeting of this Association was held on August 12 at the Imperial Hotel, Hull. Mr. E. H. Earle presided, and the others present included Messrs. Bennett, Chapman, H. Brown, Walton, Gabettis, Selle, Whitlam, Grant, and Tebb. Routine business was disposed of and new members admitted. The Secretary was instructed to draw up a provisional syllabus for winter meetings, to be submitted to the next meeting. A serious infringement of the Pharmacy Act was mentioned by one of the members, and it was decided to take action in the matter. A letter was read from the Secretary of the Pharmaceutical Society *re* the proposed "Compendium"; but the meeting was not at all certain as to the scope of the proposed book, and no action was taken.

Dover Chemists' Association.

The quarterly meeting of this Association was held this week. There was a good attendance of members, and the proceedings opened with a discussion on the new reading of the Stamp Act. The discussion then drifted to the question of Bland's pills and the C.D.A., and then the matter of asking the Folkestone and Canterbury chemists to join the Association was debated. The cutting of the price of Elliman's embrocation, and a chat on urinary deposits ended the meeting.

Saccharin-smuggling.

At Wigan, on August 18, the Borough Justices heard the charge against Geo. Enoch Skidmore, manager of the Palatine Mineral-water Works, Wigan, of having in his

possession 56 lbs. of saccharin on which duty had not been paid. Alfred William Starkey, confidential officer in his Majesty's Customs, repeated his evidence as given in last week's issue (page 236). In addition, he stated that when asked his name, Skidmore gave it as "Preston," and said he came from Rusholme, Manchester. When asked his occupation, he said they could put it down as "a gentleman at large." In answer to Mr. Wilson, who appeared for the defence, Mr. Starkey stated that he was not a party to any trap which had been set in order to catch Skidmore. Witness admitted that he had had some communication with a Liverpool man named Riley, and that Riley was present at the time of the arrest. Frederick Wm. Riley, manager for Messrs. Strawn & Sons, mineral-water manufacturers, Liverpool, gave corroborative evidence. In cross-examination he refused to state why he assisted the prosecution, and Mr. Wilson complained that the whole thing was a "plant" from beginning to end. Skidmore, he said, bore an irreproachable character. He had visited the West Indies, Central America, South America, Russia, and China in the service of an engineering firm. It was not pure saccharin he had in his possession, but a mixture of saccharin and about 50 per cent. of castor sugar. John Arthur Hopkinson, of Bury, deposed that he sold the mixture to Skidmore, and he also produced notes showing that duty had been paid on a certain quantity of saccharin, witness asserting that the saccharin on which duty had been paid was included in the mixture before the Court. Skidmore, giving evidence in his own defence, stated that he bought about eighty tins of the article from Hopkinson, and had never a doubt but that the duty had been paid. The Bench found Skidmore guilty, and fined him the maximum amount—336l.—in default six months' imprisonment.

Birmingham Notes.

Messrs. Palmer have taken possession of their new premises in Temple Row. It is a bright-looking corner shop with handsome fittings.

The reign of Jupiter Pluvius has been to some extent useful to pharmacy. It appears that 1,016,000 tons of H₂O fell during last Friday night, with the result that colds have become quite epidemic.

The Birmingham Coroner told a jury this week that the number of suicides in the city, normally forty-eight per annum, already numbered forty-five. He could not explain the abnormal increase, but thought it was a good deal due to personal causes, and not so much to the surroundings.

Nematode infection is Birmingham's newest epidemic according to Dr. J. Dencer Whittles. The *Midland Medical Journal* for this month contains an illustrated article by the discoverer of this parasite. Dr. Whittles suggests that the malady is the same as that known as "Craw-Craw" on the West Coast of Africa.

At Cannon Hill Park the tobacco-plant has flourished well and is now in bloom. It has near it a species of *Salvia*, the blue flower of which adds materially to the general effect. The tobacco-leaves are quite large enough for the cigar-maker, but climatic influences are against the maturing of the leaves. The gardener says he is trying the plant under glass, however, "to get a few cheap cigars."

An amusing form of advertisement is being used by a local firm of veterinary-medicine vendors. It consists of a picture card containing a horse's head on the left, and to the right, about an inch away, a dose of "So-and-so's Horse-powder," while midway is a star. When the nose and the star are brought together gradually in the usual way, the horse-powder apparently disappears into the horse's mouth.

The *Birmingham Mail* reminds its readers that the King's "cure" can be had at home, and advises the public to hie to the chemists and prime themselves with the essentials for the "cure" of either Carlsbad or Marienbad. All that is wanted is "a little sulphate of sodium and some baking-soda. Add these salts to your morning tub, dissolve them, and if warm Carlsbad, if cold Marienbad, is at your service." The same journal suggests that the public are not sufficiently aware of the fact that "on and after January 1 next the price of each 1d. box of pills will be 2½d."

Sheffield Notes.

The City Council at their last meeting unanimously approved of a motion to contribute the sum of 5000*l.* towards the new university buildings conditional on the grant of a charter being made and the amount being spread over a period of five years.

Mr. J. M. Furness, chemist and druggist, has been appointed hon. treasurer of a committee nominated by the promoters of a testimonial to one of our city councillors, Mr. A. Muir Wilson, "in recognition of services rendered to the city." Mr. Furness is a prominent figure in local political circles.

Mr. J. Preston, chemist and druggist, of Fargate, is shortly removing his business to other premises at 105 Barker's Pool. Mr. Preston's prescription-book dates back to 1823, when the business was first established by Mr. Taylor at No. 4 High Street, the old shop having now been swept away by street-improvements. Mr. Taylor commenced a mineral-water business, to which he finally devoted all his attention, and sold the drug-business to Mr. Perry, to whom Mr. Preston went as an assistant in 1864. The business at No. 4 High Street was afterwards acquired by Mr. Cubley, with whom Mr. Preston went into partnership, ultimately succeeding to the business. He removed to his present premises ten years ago. Mr. Preston's reminiscences date back to his apprenticeship in 1855, in Liverpool, where he saw the Light Brigade marching past the corner of Dale Street, *en route* for their famous and fateful charge at Balaclava.

Cricket.

Boots' Athletic v. Radcliffe.—Played at Radcliffe on August 15, and resulted in a win for the Boots' club, which scored 159 to their opponents' 29.

Notts Chemists v. Pinder's.—Played at Nottingham on August 6, and ended in a victory for Pinder's team, who scored 89 to the Chemists' 60. For the losers Plattin and Lee each took three wickets, and Smith two.

A Poison Mystery.

At an inquest held at Wandsworth on August 18, touching the death of a man named Scholliers, the evidence was to the effect that deceased had been in the habit of taking pills for liver-complaint, and on one occasion he also took Epsom salts. On the day of his death deceased mixed some "salts" in a glass of water and drank it. He immediately complained of a burning sensation, and died before medical aid could be obtained. A daughter of the deceased man said the salts were kept in a box in the kitchen. She could not say where her father had obtained the box of salts. Dr. Ludwig Freyberger, one of the pathologists of the London County Council, deposed to finding in the gullet, intestines, and upper part of the bowels signs of corrosive poisoning. He could not say what was the cause of the corrosion, but it was some irritant poison. The Coroner handed the box, labelled "Purified Epsom salts," to Dr. Freyberger, and asked what it contained. Witness replied that it was "a white crystalline powder, having a saline taste." It might be Epsom salts, but he could not say beyond that. The inquiry was adjourned in order that analyses of the salts, pills, and stomach contents might be made.

Chlorate-of-potash Poisoning.

At a Coroner's inquiry held at Morecambe on August 17 touching the death of Eric Spencer, the two-year-old son of a schoolmaster at Walkden, it was stated in evidence that the child was very fond of sweets, and to cure this fondness the child's uncle gave him about a dozen chlorate-of-potash tablets to eat. The uncle deposed that occasionally he had himself taken a dozen or twenty of the tablets in a day. The child became ill and died, the medical opinion being that poisoning was the cause of death. Dr. Benson said there had been a great error of judgment in giving the child so many tablets, as 10 gr. of chlorate of potash would be fatal to a child of two, and each tablet would contain from 4 to 5 gr. The chlorate of potash acted as a gastric intestinal irritant, and an overdose was calculated to produce death in two hours. The Coroner said the smallest fatal dose recorded was 40 to 45 gr. given to a child of three. He hoped the

case would act as a warning to people not to give such things to children, and he pointed out that chlorate of potash was not scheduled as a poison, although the tablets were a popular specific for sore throat. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death from poisoning incautiously administered.

The Week's Poisonings.

The deaths reported from poisoning during the week number seven, of which three were misadventures. Laudanum was taken in fatal doses by Edwin Wilson, a Manchester commission-agent, and by John Lumb, of Sowerby Bridge. Both had suffered from melancholia. A Pemberton compositor named Ross poisoned himself with vermin-killer, and a labourer at Theydon Bois took a fatal draught of carbolic acid. Charles Matthevman, employed in the analyst's office at the G.N.R. works at Doncaster, drank a solution of potassium cyanide in mistake for barley-water. Dr. W. B. Macdonald, medical attendant on board the yacht *Valhalla*, belonging to the Earl of Crawford, took an overdose of chloral by misadventure, and died. The poisoning of a child by chlorate of potash is detailed above.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Business Change.

Mr. Patrick E. Kelly, L.P.S.I., late of Messrs. Hoyte & Son, Dublin, has opened a medical hall at Shaney Place, Enniscorthy, co. Wexford.

A Professional Salary.

Dr. J. C. MacWalter, M.P.S.I., Dublin, has called public attention, in his capacity as Poor-law Guardian, to the fact that the medical officer at Baldoyle only receives 60*l.* a year. He describes the meagre salary as a grave scandal, and is taking steps to have it increased by one-half.

Methylated-spirit Drinking.

At the Ballymena Petty Sessions on August 14, a man named Thos. Gardner Patterson, of The Braid, was fined 10*s.* and costs for being helplessly drunk in the public road. Sergeant Tresilian, R.I.C., said that two bottles of methylated spirit were on the ground where Patterson was lying; and Head-Constable Cassidy said that the man was a notorious drinker of methylated spirit.

Dublin Chemists' Assistants' Association.

The provisional committee met on August 17 at the Gresham Hotel, Dublin, Mr. H. C. Thackeray, L.P.S.I., in the chair. Letters from city and suburban assistants were read, cordially approving of the Association. On the motion of Mr. Aplin, the main features of the Association, choice of office-bearers, and committee of management were left in the hands of the general body of members.

Unofficial Drugs.

At the Callan Guardians' last meeting, the Chairman said that a certain medicine had been ordered by the doctor which was not in the B.P., and in that case he thought the doctor should state for what the medicine was required. Have the Guardians power, he asked, to order a medicine not on the list? The Clerk: They have if the doctor orders it. The Chairman: Very well. I will mark here "that the doctor must in future state what such medicine is required for."

Quality of I.R. Sheeting.

At the meeting of the Carrick-on-Suir Board of Guardians last week a letter was read from the Medical Supply Association, South Anne Street, Dublin, in reference to the supply of a quantity of rubber sheeting. The letter pointed out that the sheeting contracted for is the ordinary sheeting, and this material cannot be boiled, but the sheeting supplied was to special order. The Guardians replied that the sample sheeting tendered for could be had in the open market at

3s. 6d. per yard, and the Guardians felt that a similar sheeting should be had per contract.

The Cod-liver Oil Famine.

This matter again came up at the Longford Guardians' last meeting (reported in the *C. & D.* of August 15, page 297), on a letter from the medicine contractor, in which the contractor stated that he could not possibly supply the quantities ordered. The extraordinary scarcity of this drug in Norway and in England is such that a sufficient supply cannot be got. "If the medical officers desire to get cod-liver oil, they can do so as they choose; but I distinctly say that I will not allow the price to be deducted from my account, and shall take the necessary means to prevent it." In the discussion which followed, it was resolved to compel the contractor to carry out the terms of his contract.

Infirmiry Drugs.

The governors of the co. Meath Infirmary recently requested the medical staff to draw up a requisition-form for medicines, drugs, and surgical appliances for the institution, and in response the doctors have recommended the Local Government Board's prescribed lists. The Secretary explained that this would simplify the taking of the contracts for the medicines. In the past the auditor complained that he could not audit the medicine-account properly unless a list were adopted and tenders invited. It was decided to adopt the Local Government Board list.

Tenders for the supply of medicines were received from Messrs. Hunt, Medical Supply Association, Apothecaries' Hall, Messrs. Fannin, Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, and John Clarke & Co. The last-named tender, which allowed 26 per cent. reduction on the prices set down in the prescribed list of the Local Government Board, and which was the lowest, was accepted.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Poisoning.

Samuel Dow (74), residing in Kilmarnock, committed suicide on August 10 by drinking spirit of salt.

Alleged Excise Offence.

At Aberdeen Police Court on August 14, William Duffus, chemist and druggist, was charged with having on a Sunday, on his premises in Spital, sold beer and whisky without a licence. There were eight other charges against the accused, who pleaded not guilty, and the trial was adjourned for a week.

Personal.

Dr. Inglis Clark, President of the Scottish Mountaineering Club, contributes an article on hill-climbing in Scotland to the current number of *Vim*.

Mr. H. F. Scott, chemist and druggist, Port Ellen, Islay, has been distinguishing himself as a "heckler" at the Parliamentary election meetings of the Unionist candidate for Argyllshire.

Glasgow Notes.

A few chemists are booming eczema-cures in the local papers.

In a west-end shop cameras are being cleared out at remarkably low prices.

Business continues to be unprececlentedly quiet. Veterans in the trade cannot remember ever having had such a bad season. Even side-lines, such as photographic goods, are almost at a standstill.

A Glasgow Minor man, at present serving under a three-years' engagement in South Africa, writes to an old chum in the trade here, asking him to warn qualified men to be chary of emigrating to that country. He describes his lot there as being more disagreeable and less remunerative than at home.

It is only in some districts of the city that unprotected proprietaries are being cut to the bone. In other districts the higher prices of the Local Trade Association are being maintained without difficulty.

On August 12 Mary Harper (43), who was cited to appear at the Police Court on a charge of assault, drank a quantity of laudanum and was removed to the Royal Infirmary, where the stomach-pump was successfully applied.

There is much dissatisfaction with the action of certain local wholesalers with retail departments, who retail proprietaries at prices under their wholesale invoice-rates. Their position is that they cannot book such goods at cash terms.

Several well-known London and Midland firms are making a showroom-display in Glasgow of Christmas perfumes and novelties. "Scottish Bluebells" is one of the latest fancy-perfume names. There must be something in a name, after all, since the flower in question has little else to give.

So far as Glasgow is concerned, the American bonus-system and the special window-display boom seem to have had their day. American advertising methods are affected in some quarters, but for the most part chemists are betaking themselves increasingly to the pushing of their own lines.

Business Changes.

Mr. Wm. Grant, chemist and druggist, High Street, Blairgowrie, has disposed of his business to Mr. Chas. Clark, chemist and druggist, Dundee. Mr. Grant had been in business in Blairgowrie for forty-four years.

Mr. T. Scott, chemist and druggist, lately one of Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co.'s representatives in Scotland, has taken over the business of Mr. Matthew Gray, chemist and druggist, at 192 Dumharton Road, Partick. Mr. M. Gray is now manager of one of Messrs. Frizer & Green's branches in Great Western Road.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

"THE TARTARIC DERIVATIVES OF WINE."—A third edition of this useful little work—unique of its kind—has just appeared. The author, Dr. Carles, of Bordeaux, is a well-known pharmacist of the French wineopolis, and an assistant professor at the Mixed Faculty of Medicine and Pharmacy of that city.

THE CHEMIST AT THE CAFÉ.—The Café de la Régence in the far-famed Palais-Royal at Paris, which has just closed its doors, was a famous resort of men of mark during the Napoleonic era. Besides warriors like Bonaparte, Junot, and Murat, men of more peaceful reputation have frequented this café. Here Berthelot, the eminent chemist, was wont to meet Monge and other *savants* nightly after the performance at the Comédie Française, and possibly chemical formulæ, as well as battle-plans and chess-problems, have been figured on these historic marble tables.

PHARMACISTS' SCALES.—M. Trouillot, Minister of Commerce, has issued a circular to the Prefets of the various French departments, pointing out that all scales used in France must bear the official stamp and balance accurately without adjustment. The particular objects aimed at by the circular are the "precision" scales used by pharmacists ("mostly of foreign make," he states), which are often not only unstamped, but are adjusted by a nut placed at the end of each arm. He gives the owners of such scales till December 31, 1904, to replace or transform them in accordance with French laws.

THE CENTENARY OF THE PARIS SOCIETY OF PHARMACY (1803-1903).—At the usual monthly meeting of the Paris Society of Pharmacy for August, Professor E. M. Bourquelot (the General Secretary) announced that he had received a number of replies from French and foreign corresponding members of the Society accepting the invitations to take part in the celebration of the centenary to be held in Paris next October. M. Bourquelot said he was able to announce that the success of the ceremony is already guaranteed. Messrs.

Van Itallie (of Utrecht), Greshoff (of Haarlem), and Hans Eger (of Vienna), who were invited, have written to express their regret at being unable to come to Paris for the event in question.

THE NIGHT-BELL.—The question of extra payment for night-service for assistants is raised by M. Jean Dille in the *Pharmacie Laborieuse*, the official organ of the French Chemists' Assistants' Association. He commences by referring to the *U. & D.* as having remarked (some time ago) that English chemists are more and more in favour of the abolition of the night-bell, and concludes by observing that, as the Paris Prefecture of Police makes an extra allowance of 1f. 50c. each time a medicine is supplied after closing hours, it would seem as if the assistant who "sleeps in" specially for night-work is entitled to some compensation. He mentions one exceptional employer who always answers the night-bell himself, saying, "My assistants work hard enough all day to rest at night."

MADAME HUMBERT AND THE "POCKET PHARMACY."—When the heroine of the Phantom Millions learned she was to appear at the police-court recently, she pleaded that her health might render her unfit to undergo the fatigue and heat of the court. Ever-resourceful and far-seeing, the presiding judge directed Dr. Floquet, the official doctor of the Palace of Justice, to attend. The distinguished practitioner accordingly made his appearance, carrying a water-bottle and followed by an attendant bearing a portable pharmacy. This, being opened, revealed an array of phials and pots, surgical instruments, &c., which seem to have been sufficient to reassure the "Grandc Thérèse." At any rate, she faced the ordeal in the presence of the British Ambassador and other notabilities without requiring Dr. Floquet's aid.

INJURIOUS HAIR-DYE.—A case was heard in a Paris law-court last week which will be of interest to chemists who are interested in the sale of hair-dyes. The defendant was M. Denis Nouvel, manufacturer of hair-dyes, and the plaintiffs were two dressmakers, who thought that the advent of grey hairs on their heads might be detrimental in their business, and they determined to rejuvenate themselves by the use of dye. They invested in M. Nouvel's highly recommended Raffat-water for colouring the hair. As far as the dyeing operation went it proved a success, but shortly afterwards both women were suffering from skin-disease, which their medical attendants attributed to the use of the dye. The evidence of M. Ogier, expert chemist, who had analysed the dye, was heard, and he pointed to the presence of paraphenylenediamine in the preparation. The defendant was mulcted in a fine of 100f. (4%), as well as in damages to the extent of 3,500f. (140%).

HOSPITAL DRUGS.—The recent discussion on the subject of expensive drugs in hospital-practice reminds me of the circular issued some time ago by the Assistance Publique to the heads of the various Parisian hospitals. This document drew attention to the increase in expenses of the Paris "Pharmacie Centrale des Hôpitaux," resulting from "an increase in the consumption of certain expensive medicaments." A committee, having studied the matter, decided that only the chiefs of service should have the right to prescribe musk, osmic acid, and pilocarpine and its salts. Musk was only to be delivered pure, and not as a tincture, and pilocarpine, it was hinted, might often be replaced by jaborandi. In the same way the committee suggested that hydrochloride of morphine might be used instead of codeine. Other expensive medicaments the use of which it was sought to diminish were crystallised digitaline, ergotinine, homatropine, cocaine, acoitine, apomorphine, atropine, eserine, hyoscyamine, and pelletierine.

COMPULSORY VACCINATION.—The Law of February 21, 1902, renders vaccination obligatory for all French children before they attain their first year, and re-vaccination during the eleventh and twenty-first years. The detailed regulations were to be drawn up by the Academy of Medicine and Consultative Committee of Public Health, and the exact text has just been published. Parents and guardians are held responsible for the vaccination of the children under their charge. They may either bring them to the public "séances de vaccination" and report results, or present a doctor's or midwife's certificate that the operation has been successfully carried out. Each municipality is to draw up a

list not only of all infants and of young people of eleven and twenty-one residing in the commune, but of all children who have hitherto escaped the operation or in whose cases it has not "taken." The document insists on three trials. If the third inoculation has no result the patient is freed from the obligation of returning. All foreigners living in France and their children are subjected to the same rules. Defaulters are to be prosecuted according to Article 6 of the Law, but "conscientious objectors" will note that vaccinations may be adjourned by prefectorial decree in districts where epidemics (other than smallpox) temporarily exist.

East Indian News.

A MOVEMENT is on foot for the extensive manufacture of aloe fibre in Madras.

DR. A. LEHMANN, agricultural chemist to the Government of Mysore, has been engaged for a further term of five years.

THE COCAINE CURSE.—The crusade against the unlicensed sale of cocaine continues in Bombay, and police-court cases and fines are of daily occurrence. The sale of the drug has now been placed under licence, and is restricted to the European chemists and responsible native druggists.

STEALING PATENTS.—At the Esplanade Police Court, Bombay, last month, a native engine-driver, in the employment of Messrs. Treacher & Co. (Limited), wholesale druggists, Bombay, was sentenced to four months' imprisonment for stealing some claret and patent medicines, valued at Rs.15, from his employers.

PEPPER-PLANTS FROM SOUTH INDIA.—A notification, in accordance with the Insect Pest and Quarantine Ordinance, in the *Ceylon Gazette*, states that from and after August 16, 1903, the importation of pepper-plants into Ceylon from any part of India is prohibited. The importation of the dried seed of the pepper-plant for commercial use is allowed.

A MORPHINE RAID.—The trial of Nga Ba, who keeps, it is alleged, a sort of morphia den (where he injects the drug) in the Obo quarter, Poozoundaung, and who was arrested by the Excise inspectors, was commenced in Rangoon on July 9. One of the inspectors deposed to going to accused's house, and in the room in which the accused was sitting with his wife and several others, who were being injected with morphine when witness and another inspector entered, was found a bottle containing two tolals of morphine, concealed underneath the lungyi of accused's wife, which was stuck in the mat-wall partition. Near by where the accused was sitting was a syringe full of morphine and a pair of scales. The inspector's statement was corroborated by other evidence. Accused pleaded not guilty, and denied that the bottle of morphine found in his wife's lungyi belonged to anybody in the house. It had, he said, been placed there by the opium-farmer. The case was adjourned.—Judgment was delivered in the Additional Magistrate's Court, Rangoon, on July 14, in the case of S. Arthur Ali, styling himself a native doctor, who was charged with being in possession of 2½ lbs. of morphine. The magistrate declined to accept the plea of entire exoneration urged on behalf of the accused on the ground that the licence had been granted by a duly constituted authority, legally empowered to do so by virtue of the by-laws framed under section 102 of the Municipal Act, that it was as good and valid as a licence under the Opium Act, one enactment of the Legislature being as good as another, and that it was not compulsory on the accused to take out another licence for the same and identical purpose. The magistrate remarked that this argument was "tantamount to pleading that the municipal licence was entitled to immunity from the operations of the Opium Act." The accused was found guilty of possession, and sentenced to one year's imprisonment and fined Rs. 500, or in default six months' imprisonment, his worship considering that a deterrent sentence was very necessary in such a case. The accused intends to appeal.

The exports from the United States to South Africa during 1902 included "chemicals, drugs, dyes, and medicines," valued at \$386,971.

Australasian News.

Chiefly from "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia,"
July 1, 1903. 6d. per copy, post free.

MR. F. R. WATSON, member of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, is to make a long visit to England, and has, in consequence, resigned his councillorship.

THE FEDERAL PATENTS BILL was introduced on June 26, and published on June 29. It reduces the fees for taking out a patent in Australia to such an extent that the cost, including agents' charges, will not exceed 60% or 70%, instead of double that amount.

A PRESCRIPTION - ABBREVIATION. — "Q.N.S.," which occurred on a prescription given at a pill-making competition in Launceston, and which gave trouble to the competitors, stands for "quum necessitatus sit." A correspondence is taking place in the *C.D.A.* as to the use of an unusual abbreviation in a competition prescription.

AUSTRALIAN QUICKSILVER has now been produced on a commercial scale for the first time. Smelting has been commenced at Yulgibar, on the Upper Clarence River, N.S.W., and upwards of a ton of quicksilver has been produced. Dr. Elliott, chemist to the Great Australian Quicksilver Company, has devised a special furnace, and the charcoal used in the process is made on the estate. Cinnabar containing as small a quantity as $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of quicksilver can be made to pay, but the lodes so far worked assay up to 50 per cent.

CUSTOMS DOCTRINE OF SUBSTITUTES.—This has nothing to do with what the American proprietary-medicine makers call "substitutes," but is a doctrine which the Australian Customs authorities have adopted—that a drug that can be used in place of a dutiable drug is thereby liable to duty. Morphine on this account is taxed because it can be used in place of opium, and salicylates because salicylic acid is dutiable. A deputation of pharmaceutical authorities has waited on the Minister of Customs to try and get the matter looked upon in a better light, as the tax is a very severe one on some much-used medicines.

A DENTAL DEADLOCK.—Last year a Dentists Act was passed in South Australia which, although prepared on rather exclusive principles, was altered in its passage through Parliament so as to guard vested interests. Now the South Australian Dental Board have taken upon themselves to declare that Parliament did not intend to protect the vested interests of those who had been engaged in practising some departments of dentistry in connection with other occupations. A case has been decided where the Board refused to register a chemist who only drew part of his income from dental practice. The Board were defeated, and, in consequence, have resigned in a body.

ANTI-CUTTING.—The Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales is taking definite steps to bring influence to bear upon the manufacturers of proprietary articles to induce them to adopt means of maintaining the retail prices of their goods. It is also interesting and encouraging to pharmacists to note that at the monthly meeting of the Retail Grocers' and Storekeepers' Association of South Australia reports were presented which showed that the agents for Fry's cocoa, Bunyip soap, and Sunlight soap have taken action to prevent cutting. The representative of the agents of Lee & Perrin's sauce has interviewed those who were responsible for cutting prices, with satisfactory results, the price now being general at 1s. 4d.

MORPHINE-TAKERS.—The Principal Under-Secretary for New South Wales has forwarded to the N.S.W. Pharmacy Board a letter from the Director of Government Asylums for the Infirm in which complaint is made that morphine can be too easily obtained by the patients at the Government Infirmaries. In the discussion that ensued at the Board meeting it was pointed out that as long as the sale is made with the legal safeguards the Board cannot interfere, but steps are to be taken to put the matter before pharmacists.

The President said he had made up pills containing 12 gr. of morphine for a patient. That person was eighty-two years of age, and had been taking the drug for thirty years. Mr. L. P. Williams added that he knew a man who could take 20 gr.

EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE.—The proposal that now the position with regard to reciprocity has been changed a conference of pharmacy boards should be held, is receiving support, and the suggestion is favoured that pharmacy boards not at present joining in the reciprocal agreement should be invited to be present. The report of the last meeting of the Pharmacy Board of New South Wales refers to a letter on this matter from the Pharmacy Board of Victoria. When Mr. W. Short, the President of the Pharmaceutical Society of New South Wales, was in Melbourne the question of holding the Conference was raised, and Mr. Short promised to bring it under notice on his return. The Conference now suggested is one between the whole of the examiners of the reciprocating States not to seek uniform examination, but to aim at an agreement to conduct all the examinations on similar lines.

MATERIA MEDICA SPECIMENS.—Mr. W. S. G. Rich wrote to the Queensland Pharmacy Board from England stating that he had been offered unique and rare specimens of materia medica for the Board by the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, and suggesting that he be permitted to procure other specimens in the open market. In selecting them he would receive the assistance of Mr. E. M. Holmes, the curator of the Society's museum. He added that he had received the greatest courtesy from all with whom he had come in contact, and had been allowed to be present during the examinations. It was remarked at the meeting of the Pharmacy Board at which the letter was considered that there is an old offer from the Pharmaceutical Society to supply duplicate specimens, which has not been taken advantage of. It was decided to accept Mr. Rich's offer to collect and take out the specimens, and a sum of 5l. was voted to cover expenses.

THE CUSTOMS DECISIONS, issued during the month, include the following:

Instrument cases of iron and glass for use in hospitals, as manufactures, n.o.e., of metal, 20 per cent.

Jewellers' melting-furnaces. These, being identical with furnaces used in assay-work, are to be admitted free.

Saponin, a substitute for foaming-powders, liable to the same rate of duty.

Crucible furnace for dentists' use, as "dental instruments and appliances," free.

Porcelain mortar of porcelain or glass, if the matter does not exceed $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch in diameter, as "dental appliances," free.

Tartar, ground (white), claimed to be dye-stuffs, crude, as "cream of tartar," 1d. lb.

But the most extraordinary decision is in regard to "patent" medicines bearing English "duty-stamps." In future the value for Customs duty must include the value of the stamps, which must not be separated under the head of charges.

A SHOP-HOURS ACT CASE.—At the Hawthorn (Melbourne, Vic.) Court, on June 22, Mr. E. G. Hooper, chemist, Burwood Road, Hawthorn, was proceeded against by the inspector of shops and factories on a charge of having his shop-door open after nine o'clock on the night of Wednesday, June 10, in contravention of the provisions of the Shops and Factories Act. A constable gave evidence that at 10.35 p.m. on the evening of June 10 he found Mr. Hooper in the shop supplying a lady with neuralgia-mixture. Witness had previously warned defendant about keeping open after hours, and defendant said that he did not consider he was under the Factories Act. For the defence, Mr. Hooper said he did not consider he was under the Act. He signed a paper against closing at a certain hour, because when people wanted prescriptions made up it was necessary that they should be able to get them. According to the present state of things a doctor should not write a prescription, and a patient should be fined for being ill, after hours. He always closed his door at nine o'clock, but had to work in the shop, and the people seeing the light, came to him. Defendant was fined 2s. 6d., with 21s. costs. [It should be noted that the offence was that the shop was not closed, and not that medicine was sold.]

Colonial and Foreign News.

THE SERVIAN MINISTER OF THE INTERIOR has ordered that neither chemists, druggists, nor other tradesmen are to advertise their remedies or their efficacy in other than trade journals.

NO HANDBILLS.—An official order has been issued in Bohemia forbidding the wrapping of medicines made up from doctors' prescriptions, or other pharmaceutical articles, in circulars advertising patent medicines. The order states that such wrappers are mostly advertisements of foreign medicaments which are worthless and dangerous.

DRUG-IMPORTS INTO BULGARIA.—The Bulgarian Minister of Finance recently ordered that all remedies, medical specialities, mineral waters, as well as all articles which are allowed to be sold by pharmacists and drug-stores alone, are to be imported solely through the Custom-houses of Sofia, Varna, Rustschuk, Burgas, Philippopolis, and Widdin.

PATENT MEDICINES IN GERMANY.—The regulations recently issued for Hamburg with regard to the sale of proprietary medicines (*C. & D.*, July 25, page 141) have been copied by Prussia. Prompt publication has taken place of restrictions almost the same as those issued at Hamburg. Both come into force on January 1, 1904. (See also page 364.)

NIPPED IN THE BUD.—The firm of Messrs. Whitesell & Bradley succeeded to the drug-business of Messrs. W. E. Lehman & Co., Newmarket, Toronto, in August, 1902, the purchase amounting to \$1,900. They paid \$700, and gave a chattel-mortgage for the balance. This they have never been able to pay off, and the mortgage has now been foreclosed, and the stock sold.

CONCESSION TO MINE PHOSPHATE IN BARBUDA.—The Board of Trade *Journal* says that the Government of Antigua will receive, up to October 1, 1903, at the office of the Colonial Secretary, Antigua, tenders for a concession to mine phosphate of lime in the island of Barbuda. All information may be obtained from the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Downing Street, London, S.W.

THE CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE CONGRESS which opened at Montreal on August 17 is considering such questions as preferential trade, an Imperial postal system, and the reorganisation and strengthening of the consular service. The Congress represents 179 associations, and is attended by about 500 delegates. Of the associations represented, seventy-six are situated in the United Kingdom.

CAIRO INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.—The French commercial *attaché* at Cairo reports the establishment of an international chamber of commerce in that city. The plans are supported by the British, French, Italian, and Austro-Hungarian Chambers of Commerce of Alexandria. According to its by-laws, the Chamber will devote attention to the general interests of commerce and manufactures; it will act as a court of arbitration in disputes between merchants, manufacturers, shippers, &c. It is expected that this new Chamber will greatly benefit commercial interests connected with Egypt by so consolidating these as to give them great power in effecting much-needed reforms in the collection of claims, the improvement of transportation-service, the reduction of freight-charges, the betterment of Custom-house facilities, &c.

SPANISH ARSENIC.—In the *C. & D.* of July 25, 1902, page 114, we drew attention to the arsenic-mines of Messrs. Girones and Henrich, of Barcelona. We now learn from a British consular report that during 1902 further great progress has been made at the mines, over 5,000 metres of galleries having been opened. The smelting-works at Badalona in connection with the mines have virtually doubled their output, exporting in the first six months of 1902, 1,200 tons of white powdered arsenic. In this department a Brown's furnace, supplied by a London firm, has just been put up. There are two new reverberating-furnaces, and 15 tons of arsenic can be produced daily. Five new buildings, the erection of the furnaces for lead-smelting, and a 20-ton Pilz furnace are practically finished; the works and plant for the extraction of gold and silver have been commenced, and it is expected that everything will be in full working order by the end of 1903.

OPIUM IN NORTH FORMOSA.—The value of the import of opium into Northern Formosa fell from 240,669% in 1901 to 153,822% (a decrease of 86.847%) in 1902. Indian opium was imported to the value of 67,162%, but the Persian drug, being considerably cheaper and being required by the Government factory in larger quantities, still preponderates. No Chinese or Turkish opium was imported. It is asserted by the authorities that the consumption of the drug is decreasing in Formosa. They express their intention of gradually stamping out the practice of opium-smoking, and the stringent regulations enforced for the licensing of smokers and for the prevention of smuggling, assisted also by moral suasion, all tend towards bringing about this consummation. Everything points to the fact that at some date, sooner or later, the import of opium is destined to be reduced to the limits of the country's requirements of the drug as a medicinal preparation only.

ITEMS FROM RUSSIA.—In the course of this summer, as in past years, the Russian Pharmaceutical Society at Moscow is organising a series of botanical excursions for its members.—The Northern Pharmaceutical Society is agitating in high quarters for the opening of shops where physicians' prescriptions may be dispensed and drugs sold over the counter at low fixed prices. It is suggested that part of the profits of such establishments should be given to orphans and to invalid chemists unable for work.—Pharmacists in business in Lyasan, having complained of the Government sale of medicines from village dispensaries at low prices, have received a reply from the Government that their complaint is useless, as the law does not prohibit low prices unless they influence the quality of the medicines.—A Russian Company for Trading in Apothecaries' Goods has been authorised to raise its capital by 200,000 roubles by the issue of 2,000 fully paid shares.

THE PHARMACIST'S TOAST.—At a recent meeting of the British Columbia Pharmaceutical Association held in Toronto, Mr. Mills, of Victoria, wound up his speech by giving the pharmacist's toast as follows:

May his occupation never become a drug in the market as long as he sticks (like his own plasters) to business. May he never be bruised in the mortar of adversity by the pestle of misfortune. May his rise in his profession be as accurately marked as his graduated measure. May his success never be alloyed by a mixture of ill-luck or a tincture of regret. May his counter prove the crucible whereby he transmutes human ailments into precious metal, and precipitates the golden deposit into his own pocket. May his career be as unspiced as distilled water and as smooth and pleasant as pure Narbonne honey. May he never be called upon to swallow the bitter pill of disappointment or be incensed in the bitter spirit of enmity. Should fickle fortune ever refuse him her smiles, may he find an antidote in the scorching opiate of woman's love; be strengthened by the tonic of experience and purified by the sublimic of patience.

Pharmaceutical associations, please note!

BRITISH TRADE IN TURKEY.—A meeting of the British Chamber of Commerce of Turkey was held in Constantinople on August 10, to inaugurate the new offices of the Chamber. Sir William Whittall presided, and in opening the proceedings said the Chamber had now been in existence fifteen years. The question had often been asked. How was it that a chamber representing far and away the largest commercial and shipping interests in Turkey should exist on so modest and humble a footing as theirs, whereas the Chambers of Commerce of other foreign competitors are conceived on a much grander scale, having trading journals, central and commercial offices, &c.? The explanation is that the policy of the home Government is to leave everything to individual initiative, and, as it were, to sit aloft and merely watch British trade fight its own battles: whereas foreign Governments have realised the necessity of descending into the arena and actively assisting their subjects in the great fight for trade, in many cases leading the fight through organised official combinations. He hoped the Chamber would continue its efforts to convince the home Government of the urgent necessity of a change of system in its relation to trade.

In a recent issue of the *Board of Trade Journal* appears a report from Rosario, Argentina, indicating increased industrial activity, and calling attention to the formation of various companies for the erection of artificial-ice making factories.

Legal Reports.

Trade Law.

What is an Accident?—In the House of Lords on August 7, an appeal from the Court of Appeal was decided in the case of *Fenton (pauper) v. J. Thorley & Co. (Limited)*. The appellant was an employé of the defendants, and worked a machine for preparing Thorley's food for cattle. One day he strained himself in trying to operate the machine, and sustained a rupture. The question was whether the appellant had met with an accident within the meaning of the Workmen's Compensation Act. The County Court Judge held that he had not, and the Court of Appeal affirmed the County Court Judge's decision. Judgment was given by Lord Macnaghten, with whom were Lords Shand, Davey, Robertson, and Lindley. His Lordship said it was, he thought, to be regretted that the word "fortuitous" should have been applied to the term "injury by accident" in the Workmen's Compensation Act. If it meant exactly the same thing as accidental, the use of the word was superfluous. If it introduced the element of haphazard, an element which was not necessarily involved in the word "accidental," its use, he ventured to think, was misleading, and not warranted by anything in the Act. If a man, in lifting a weight or trying to move something not easily moved, were to strain a muscle, or rick his back, or rupture himself, the mishap in ordinary parlance would be described as an accident. It seemed to him extraordinary that anybody should suppose that when the advantage of insurance against accident at their employers' expense was being conferred on workmen, Parliament could have intended to exclude from the benefit of the Act some injuries ordinarily described as accidents which, beyond all others, merited favourable consideration in the interest of workmen and employers alike. A man injured himself by doing some stupid thing, and it was called an accident, and he got the benefit of the insurance. It might even be his own fault, and yet compensation was not to be disallowed unless the injury was attributable to "serious and wilful misconduct" on his part. A man injured himself suddenly and unexpectedly by throwing all his might, and all his strength, and all his energy into his work by doing his very best and utmost for his employer, not sparing himself or taking thought of what might come upon him, and then he was to be held that his case was outside the Act because he exerted himself deliberately, and there was an entire lack of the fortuitous element. He did think that if such were held to be the true construction of the Act, the result would not be for the good of the men nor for the good of the employers either in the long run. Certainly it would not conduce to honesty or thoroughness in work. His Lordship then dealt with the Act, and the different decisions on the subject, and cited a recent decision of the Court of Session in Scotland—*Stewart v. Wilsons and Clyde Coal Company (Limited)*—with which he entirely agreed. It was the case of a miner who strained his back in replacing a derailed coal-hutch. The question arose, Was that an accident? All the learned Judges held that it was. Lord McLaren observed that it was impossible to limit the scope of the statute. He considered that "if a workman in the reasonable performance of his duties sustained a physiological injury as the result of the work he was engaged in, this was an accidental injury in the sense of the statute." Lord Kinnear observed that the injury arose from some causes which were not definitely ascertained, except that the appellant was lifting hutches which were too heavy for him. If, he added, such an occurrence as this could not be described in ordinary language as an accident, he did not know how otherwise to describe it. He (Lord Macnaghten) had no doubt that in the present case the County Court Judge ought to have found in favour of the appellant, if he had not been compelled to decide the other way by recent decisions in the Court of Appeal. He moved that the decision of the Court of Appeal and of the County Court Judge be reversed, with costs in both courts, and that the action be remitted to the County Court with a direction to the Judge to ascertain the amount of compensation to which the appellant was entitled. The costs here would follow the rule laid down for pauper appeals. The other Lords concurred.

High Court Cases.

WANTED "ODOL."

IN the Vacation Court on Wednesday, before Mr. Justice Walton, Mr. Bramwell Davis, K.C., mentioned a motion in the case of *Lingner v. Max Schliephak (Limited)*, and asked that the matter might stand over until next week. Learned counsel said it appeared that in this case a waiter at the Langham Hotel had been in the habit of brushing his teeth with "Odol." Requiring a fresh bottle he went to the defendants' place, and bought what he thought was a bottle of "Odol," but was apparently supplied with something else.

He understood the defendants to say that they had not sold this preparation, or had in any way infringed the plaintiff's rights, and therefore they could have no objection to say they would not sell any over next week.

Mr. Galbraith, for the defendants, said his clients absolutely denied the statements of the plaintiff, and he declined to give any undertaking whatever.

Mr. Bramwell Davis: Then the motion will stand over for a week.

Mr. Justice Walton: Very well.

Spirits Act, 1880.

METHYLATED PREPARATIONS.

At Maidstone Police Court on August 18 Frederick Josiah Oliver, chemist and druggist, Bank Street, Maidstone, trading as Stonham & Son, appeared in answer to three separate informations charging him "with having in his possession certain medicines—to wit, 'Fardon's cough-balsam,' 'Balsamum anisi,' and 'Linimentum iodi'—in the preparation of which methylated spirit had been used."

Mr. Denniss, barrister, from the Solicitors' Department, Somerset House, prosecuted on behalf of the Inland Revenue authorities, and Mr. F. W. Beck (Neve, Beck & Kirby), solicitor to the Chemists' Defence Association, appeared for Mr. Oliver, who pleaded guilty.

In opening the case, Mr. Denniss first quoted the section of the Act under which the proceedings were instituted, as follows:

Any person (a) who prepares or attempts to prepare any methylated spirits for use, or for a beverage, or as a mixture for a beverage; (b) or sells methylated spirits, whether so prepared or not as or for a beverage, or mixed with a beverage; (c) or uses any methylated spirits, or any derivative thereof, in the preparation of any article capable of being used wholly or partially as a beverage or internally as a medicine; (d) or sells or has in his possession any such article in the preparation of which methylated spirits, or any derivative thereof, has been used, shall for each offence incur a fine of 100l.

Methylated spirit, said counsel, was allowed to be used in this country duty-free. There were two reasons why this spirit was not permitted to be used in medicines: first because it did not pay duty; and, secondly, because this spirit was regarded as unsuitable for taking internally. In consequence of certain information which reached the Inland Revenue authorities, a bottle of "Fardon's cough-balsam" was purchased at defendant's shop, and, on the preparation being analysed, it was found to contain methylated spirit. An officer from the Government laboratory was afterwards sent down to Maidstone to examine the defendant's stock, and he found other bottles of "Fardon's balsam," besides bottles labelled "Balsamum anisi," and "Linimentum iodi," which also contained methylated spirit. As these three preparations are capable of being used internally, defendant had rendered himself liable to the maximum penalty of 100l. in respect of each case.

James Francis Halpin, employed at the Government laboratory, stated that he visited defendant's premises on April 7, and found there twenty-five 1-oz. bottles and seven 3-oz. bottles of "Fardon's cough-balsam," and also a bottle of "Balsamum anisi" and one of "Linimentum iodi." They were examined in the Government laboratory, and found to contain methylated spirit. All these preparations are capable of being used internally as medicines. Defendant said, with regard to the "Linimentum iodi," that he thought it must have come from some other maker; but he noticed that "Linimentum iodi" was written on defendant's own label.

In cross-examination by Mr. Beck, witness said he went to Mr. Oliver's premises for the purpose of obtaining from Mr. Oliver an explanation. He made a thorough examination of the whole premises, and saw some one hundred and fifty tinctures of various kinds. He examined the tinctures here and there, and in only three of the preparations did he find that methylated spirit had been used. He also saw in the same tincture rooms four liniments labelled "Methylated." These were the liniments of aconite, belladonna, compound camphor, and soap. The use of methylated spirit is allowed in those preparations by the Board's indulgence. Mr. Oliver willingly showed him round his premises, and

gave him every possible facility for examining his stock. Liniment of iodine is as likely to be taken internally as tincture of iodine, and more likely to be taken than soap-liniment or belladonna-liniment.

Mr. Beck, for the defence, stated at the outset that he had advised Mr. Oliver to plead guilty to the summonses, because he was perfectly ready to submit himself to the jurisdiction of the Court. The whole question, he desired to point out, was one of penalty, or a revenue-question, and in no sense was any other point involved. Mr. Denniss had suggested to the Bench that the methylated spirit which was found in the three preparations in question was likely to be prejudicial to health; but he (Mr. Beck) ventured to say that a consideration of that kind ought not to enter into the case, and he must say he was surprised that his learned friend should have introduced that element for discussion. The Inland Revenue authorities were merely cold-blooded seekers after revenue, and the local authorities were quite capable of looking after the public health of the inhabitants belonging to their towns or parishes. He repeated that his friend, in a case of this sort, merely looked after the revenue.

Mr. Denniss (interposing): No, no.

Continuing, Mr. Beck said that for many years past chemists had been permitted to use methylated spirit in four liniments—aconite, belladonna, compound camphor, and soap—so that they might be able to prepare a useful household remedy without any detriment to the Excise authorities; and, at any rate, one of the three preparations in respect of which defendant had been summoned came precisely in the same category as any one of those four liniments. The three summonses, he submitted, stood on a somewhat different footing. One related to "Fardon's cough-balsam," the second to the balsam of aniseed, or "Copeling's speciality," which, he was bound to admit, was an article that could be used internally in small quantities; and the third summons related to "Linimentum iodi." The two latter preparations were taken over by Mr. Oliver at the time he purchased his business from Mr. Stonham some years ago; and so far as "Copeling's speciality" was concerned, Mr. Oliver was quite ignorant of the fact that it contained methylated spirit. With regard to the liniment of iodine, he knew that contained the spirit, because it was so labelled; and he (Mr. Beck) did not think anyone could suggest that there was any attempt on his client's part to defraud the revenue in having this preparation on his premises. As to "Fardon's cough-balsam," when Mr. Oliver purchased his business it included the recipe for this balsam, and by some strange freak the use of methylated spirit was actually prescribed in the recipe. As a matter of fact, it had been sold only in very small quantities, and the spirit which was used was only an exceedingly small proportion of the whole preparation. He desired to point out that in all these preparations the use of methylated spirit was purely as a preservative. When Mr. Oliver's attention was drawn to the matter, he quite recognised that the Inland Revenue authorities were justified in prohibiting the use of methylated spirit in the three preparations, and he much regretted that by a strange oversight the mistake should have occurred. There was no desire on Mr. Oliver's part to defraud the revenue, or conduct his business improperly, and the fact that out of 150 different tinctures which he sold only the three were found to contain methylated spirit was a great factor in his favour, and evidence that he had acted quite innocently in the matter.

The Bench, after a brief deliberation, inflicted a fine of 40s., and 10s. costs, in each of the three cases.

The money was at once paid.

Explosives Act.

STORING PETROL.

IN the Dublin Southern Police Court on August 18, before Mr. Swifte, Divisional Magistrate, Mr. Timothy J. Waters, proprietor of the Automobile Agency, Reney Place, was summoned for keeping a greater quantity of petroleum on his premises than the place was certified for. The inspector of explosives said that the defendant was entitled to keep 40 gals. of petrol in his store, but instead of that quantity witness found 257 gals. on one occasion and 129 gals. on

another. He tested the spirit by the apparatus supplied by the Board of Trade, and found it to flash at 61°, which was 12° under the limit prescribed by the Act. The defendant said the petroleum was taken in by him to oblige the owners of the cars which competed in the Gordon-Bennett Cup race. It was the surplus after the race. Mr. Swifte said it was a contravention of the Act, and he would impose a fine of 8s. and 2s. costs.

County Court Cases.

A CHEMIST COMMITTED.

IN the City of London Court on August 18, before Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., Oppenheimer, Son & Co. (Limited), 179 Queen Victoria Street, E.C., applied to have Mr. George Buckley, chemist, 111 Earl's Court Road, W., committed to prison for the non-payment of 15s. due. The Judge stated that the defendant had written to the Court to say that he had the bailiffs in possession, but he would pay 4s. on September 8 and 2s. monthly afterwards. The plaintiffs' representative stated that the defendant, who was a chemist, had an up-to-date pharmacy. The debt was for drugs supplied in the ordinary way of business to the defendant's shop, which was well established. On one occasion when he went to the defendant's shop he had to wait whilst customers were being served, showing that plenty of business was being done. The Judge remarked that the defendant, in his letter, said he had to borrow money with which to pay his rent, and that he had always paid the plaintiffs' previous transactions. The plaintiffs' representative said it was true the defendant had paid, but with difficulty. The Judge said he thought if the defendant paid 2s. a month that ought to be enough for the plaintiffs. He made an order committing the defendant to prison for twelve days, suspending the order if he paid 4s. on September 8 and 2s. a month afterwards.

MADAME'S WAY.

IN the City of London Court on August 11, before Judge Lumley Smith, K.C., Messrs. Henry C. Quelch & Sons, druggists' sundriesmen, 4 Ludgate Square, E.C., sued Madame Corisand, perfumer, of 61 North Audley Street, W., for 5s. 13s. 10d. for goods supplied. The plaintiffs' representative said that soon after proceedings were commenced the defendant paid a sum of 14s. to the solicitors. The defendant, who conducted her own case, said that the plaintiffs had included in the bill upon which she was being sued goods which did not belong to her account. She admitted a sum of 14s. which she had paid. The plaintiffs' representative said, in answer to the Judge, that amongst the items which the defendant had ordered was 24 oz. of "Reducing Lotion." This order was written by madame, and the price charged was 12s. Previous to the plaintiffs supplying Madame Corisand with goods they had supplied a Mr. Aarons. The first order in defendant's handwriting was dated January 12, and on January 24 an order was given for Parma Violetta perfume. There was no complaint in respect of the quality of the perfume until payment was pressed for in June. One litre of perfume had been ordered, and was specially made for the defendant. The bottle was returned in a most insulting manner, and left on their (plaintiffs') office-table after it was explained that it was impossible to accept the return of it. The perfume in question was an extract made by one of the largest Paris firms. The defendant said the first item charged to her was ordered by her for Mr. Aarons. The second order which she had given was written for Mr. Aarons, but she stupidly signed it with her name. The Judge remarked that if the defendant did stupid things she would have to pay for them. She admitted ordering the litre of Parma Violetta perfume, but when the bottle was opened it was useless for her business. It was not worth more than 10s. She had returned it to the plaintiffs, who had taken it back, and it was at their office now. The perfume was not up to sample when delivered, she said, and was nothing more than spirit of wine. She was asked to keep it in order that it should mature. The perfume had been kept until July. Had the perfume been of any use she would have put it up into small bottles. The perfume did not get any better by age, but worse if anything, and that was why it was returned. Mr. Aarons, who said he was the defendant's husband, stated that the item of 12s.,

the price of the "Reducing Lotion," should have been entered to his account. He was quite ready to settle his account, but the plaintiffs had supplied him with certain plasters which were to contain iron, and were not up to what had been guaranteed. The Judge said the defendant was liable for the goods she had ordered in her name. It was a great thing in these cases where the goods were not right to send a letter pointing this out when rejecting goods. He gave judgment for the plaintiffs for 3*l.* 9*s.* 2*d.* He was not satisfied that the perfume had anything wrong with it. The defendant said she thought under the circumstances she was entitled to the perfume if she had to pay for it. The Judge pointed out to the plaintiffs' representative that the defendant was entitled to the perfume if they still had it. The plaintiffs' representative said the perfume had been offered to the defendant and refused.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

PEPPER.

At Leigh Police Court on August 13, Peter Gaskell, grocer, Leigh, was fined 5*l.* and costs for selling pepper adulterated with 5 per cent. of ground olive-stones. Mr. Wilson, who prosecuted, alleged that there was more or less a conspiracy between a Liverpool firm of pepper-grinders and a Salford firm of wholesale drysalters to place adulterated pepper on the market.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re FRANK BOOTH, Ossett, Druggist.—The public examination was to have been held on August 14 at Dewshury, but debtor failed to appear, and the hearing was adjourned for a month.

Re GEORGE THOMAS KNIGHT, 5 Tynewydd Terrace, Newbridge, Mon., late Castle Street, Caerphilly, Glam., Chemist and Druggist.—The receiving order in this case was made on August 6 on the debtor's own petition, and from the statement of affairs filed under the proceedings the gross liabilities amount to 362*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* (unsecured 351*l.* 12*s.*); and assets consisting of cash in hand, 1*l.*; stock in trade (cost 30*l.*), 10*l.*; trade fixtures, fittings, utensils, &c., 5*l.*; furniture, 15*l.*; life policies, 2*l.*; book-debts, good, 2*s.* 7*d.*; making 33*l.* 2*s.* 7*d.*, from which 10*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.* has to be deducted for preference claims, leaving net assets 23*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.* The Official Receiver in his observations states that the debtor declares that he started business about nine years ago at Caerphilly with 200*l.* capital, which he obtained under a guarantee given by his father to his bankers. He carried on that business for four years, when he disposed of it by private treaty for 250*l.*, which he paid into the bank, and which relieved his father of his liability, and left him a credit at the bank of between 1*l.* and 2*l.* At that time he owed other creditors about 50*l.*, and effected a composition arrangement with all except two, paying them various sums between 5*s.* and 12*s.* 6*d.* in the pound. That he has since paid one of the two creditors 5*l.* in full, and the other is still owing. To carry out this arrangement he borrowed between 20*l.* and 30*l.* from his father. After being out of employment for six months he again opened business on his own account at Newbridge, his father becoming surety to the bank for 100*l.* to enable him to do so. This sum was subsequently paid by his father to the bank three years ago, and the account closed. That his father also guaranteed a drug account amounting to 50*l.*, which he paid about two years ago, and has since advanced him 20*l.* which he used in his business. At the date of the receiving order one creditor had obtained judgment against him for 8*l.* 7*s.* 9*d.*, but he was first sued about twelve months ago for a small sum which he paid. His wife is possessed of a few articles of furniture worth 2*l.* or 3*l.*, and a piano worth 15*l.* The furniture belonged to her before marriage, and the piano was given to her by his father on marriage, but he (the bankrupt) has recently had it repaired at a cost of 10*l.*, which amount is still owing. (His wife has since informed the Official Receiver's valuer that she proposes to relinquish her claim to the piano for the benefit of the creditors.) His failure is attributable to bad trade. The books of account kept consist of bought and sold ledgers. He first became aware of his insolvency about three years ago, and has since then contracted all his present indebtedness, except about 170*l.*, part of the amount due to his father. His takings have averaged about 4*l.* per week during the past three years, the gross profit on which amounted to about 1*l.*; his trade expenses were 16*s.* 6*d.* per week, leaving a net profit of 3*s.* 6*d.*, which, however, was insufficient to pay his drawings for household and personal expenses during the same period, amounting to 30*s.* per week. The liabilities appear to be chiefly for goods supplied in the

way of his trade, except as to 216*l.* for money lent. A creditor treated as partly secured holds two 1*l.* fully paid shares in Camwall (Limited) deposited as security for an advance of 2*l.* 10*s.*

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

Eugster, J., and Koertgen, J., under the style of "The British Syphon Manufacturing Company," Gresham Buildings, Basinghall Street, E.C., Wickham Street, Lambeth, and Barnshury Street, Islington, N., manufacturers of syphons, seltzogenes, soda-water machinery, and mineral waters; so far as regards J. Koertgen.

Leins, H., and Weiss, R., under the style of "M. Buchner," Houndsditch, E.C., and under the style of "Schacht, Warner & Co.," Fore Street, E.C., chemists and druggists.

Watson, C. H., and Havers, C., as trustees of the will of Thomas P. Watson, deceased, under the style of W. Watson & Sons, High Holborn, Fulwood's Rents, Edinburgh, and Melbourne, Australia, opticians and manufacturers of photographic apparatus.

The Bankruptcy Acts, 1883 and 1890.

ADJUDICATION.

Balchin, Edward Samuel (trading as Cosway & Rutter), High Road, Kilburn, N.W., chemist.

New Companies & Company News.

WESTRUMITE (LIMITED).—Capital 115,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of brokers, importers, blenders manufacturers, exporters and refiners of oil of every description mechanical, mining and general engineers, brick and cement manufacturers, &c. No initial public issue. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification, 300*l.*

D. E. WILLIAMS (LIMITED).—Registered in Dublin. Capital 100,000*l.*, in 5*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of wine, beer, and spirit merchants, general grocers, and dealers in provisions, drugs, and chemicals. The first directors are D. E. Williams, D. Williams, and J. Wrafter. Qualification, 20 shares. Registered office, Barrack Street, Tullamore, Kings Co.

NEW ERA MANUFACTURING COMPANY (CHATHAM), LIMITED.—Capital 150*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of the New Era Manufacturing Company, to manufacture and deal in machinery, implements, furniture, apparel, utensils, foods, drugs, and other commodities, &c. No initial public issue. Registered without articles of association. Registered office, 8 Railway Street Chatham.

ELECTRO INSTITUTE (LIMITED).—Capital 6,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of medical electric specialists, manufacturers of and dealers in medical and electrical curative appliances, chemists, druggists, manufacturers and vendors of special medicines and remedies, proprietors of institutes for the medical and electrical treatment of diseases, &c. Registered office, 28 Charles Street, Haymarket, W.

BIOTYPE COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 10,000*l.* Objects: To acquire an invention for improvements in certain coin-free photographic apparatus, to carry on the business of photographers, chemists, &c., and to adopt an agreement with the London Standard Company (Limited). No initial public issue. The first directors are S. B. Apostoloff, Captain G. P. Heine, and T. Horton. Registered office, 28 Bush Lane, Cannon Street, E.C.

WILLIAMS & CO. (NEWPORT), LIMITED.—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on at Rodney Wharf, Newport, Mon., by C. E. Smith, as "Williams & Co."; to adopt an agreement between C. E. Smith and J. Sykes, and to carry on the business of mineral-water manufacturers, &c. No initial public issue. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification, 200*l.* Remuneration, 15*l.* per annum, divisible.

DERBY-OXIDE AND COLOUR COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 30,000*l.*, in 10*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with H. Newton and C. Spalding for the acquisition of the business of colour, paint, and varnish manufacturers and wholesale drug levigators, carried on by them at Rugeley, Staffs, as the Derby-Oxide and Colour Company, and to carry on the same and any kindred business. No initial public issue. Registered office, 30 Union Street, Burton-on-Trent.

CHARLES MARSDEN & SONS (LIMITED).—Capital 170,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on at Tamworth, Barnsley, Calder Grove (near Wakefield), Sheffield and London, as "Charles Marsden & Sons," and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in paper, salts, alkalies, acids and bleaching and dyeing materials, &c. No initial public issue. The first directors are J. Marsden, J. Dixon, and F. Moseley. Registered office, 32 Holly Street, Sheffield.

SHEERNESS AND DISTRICT LICENSED VICTUALLERS' MINERAL-WATER MANUFACTURING COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 500*l.*, in 5*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of a mineral-water manufacturer lately carried on at Richmond Street, Sheerness, by W. Ingram, and to carry on the business of mineral-water, syrup, cordial, essence, and flavouring manufacturers, chemists, &c. The first directors are J. Carr, J. H. Ellis, F. Franklin, W. Golder, W. Harris, W. J. Nokes, P. Raymond, and W. Webb. Registered office, Alma Street, Sheerness.

COLOMBIAN PETROLEUM COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 100,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To adopt an agreement with the Bolivar Syndicate (Limited) for the acquisition of a concession from the Government of Colombia to prospect or explore for petroleum, coal, asphalt, guano, and natural gas, and to carry on the business of oil refiners and merchants, chemists, chemical-manufacturers, &c. Minimum cash subscription, 20,000*l.* The first directors are J. M. Hanbury, W. M. Low, E. M. Touzeau, and J. McConnell. Registered office, 15 Devonshire Square, E.C.

ROBERT AMBROSE (LIMITED).—Registered in Edinburgh. Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of makers, manufacturers, buyers and sellers of the patent medicine known as "Meadow Queen Blood-mixture," and sole right to use the prescription of the same belonging to Robert Ambrose, and to carry on and develop the same. The first subscribers are: R. Ambrose, 9 St. Kinning Place, Paisley Road, Glasgow, herbalist; J. Johnston, 452 Crown Street, Glasgow, agent; W. Dunn, 4 York Street, Glasgow, merchant; Mrs. M. Ambrose, 291 Paisley Road, Glasgow; Miss C. Ralston, Gowan Brae, Giffnock, near Glasgow; A. Wood, 146 Duke Street, Glasgow, poulterer; and A. Aitken, 65 Bath Street, Glasgow, solicitor. Registered office, 65 Bath Street, Glasgow.

HAMBLY SYNDICATE (LIMITED).—Capital 3,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of a manufacturer of medicines and chemical and herbal preparations carried on by J. Hambly at 42 High Street, Bideford, and to carry on the same and the business of chemists, druggists, opticians, &c. The first subscribers are: R. Reed, 18 High Street, Barnstaple, grocer; J. Hambly, 42 High Street, Bideford, herbalist; A. Clements, jun., 74 High Street, Bideford, draper; T. Gay, 3 Hillview, Barnstaple, postman; A. E. Hopper, Bridge Buildings, Barnstaple, solicitor; J. Courtney, 30 Gloucester Road, Barnstaple, clerk; and J. Bartlett, 71 High Street, Barnstaple, merchant. No initial public issue. The first directors are R. Reed (chairman), J. Hambly, and A. Clements, jun. Qualification, 10*l.* Remuneration as fixed by the company. Registered office, 18 High Street, Barnstaple.

VIOLETS PROGRESSIVE CHEMISTS (LIMITED).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, patent-medicine vendors, drysalters, mineral-water dealers, &c., importers and manufacturers of and dealers in pharmaceutical, medicinal, chemical, industrial, and other preparations, makers of and dealers in photographic, surgical, and scientific apparatus and materials, &c. The first subscribers are: Mrs. E. Hill, 68 Pool Road, Bournemouth; Miss V. E. Hill, 1 Princes Terrace, Bournemouth; Miss E. Hill, Vinecroft, Bournemouth East; Miss G. Hill, Vinecroft, Lowther Road, Bournemouth; G. Daniels, 17 Fielding Road, Kensington, journalist; H. Watson, 11 Porter Road, Kensington, clerk; and J. F. Collas, 73 Longley Road, Tooting, S.W., journalist. No initial public issue. Registered without articles of association.

EMMOTLAND CHEMICAL WORKS (LIMITED).—Capital 8,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of a chemical manure and sheep-dip manufacturer carried on by J. Harrison at North Frodingham, Driffield. The first subscribers are: J. Harrison, Brandeshurton, near Driffield, manufacturer; J. E. Marsden, The Cottage, Seaby R.S.O., York, gentleman; P. B. Reckitt, East Mount, Sutton-on-Hull, gentleman; H. J. E. Marsden, The Cottage, Seaby R.S.O., gentleman; Miss C. M. Harrison, Brandeshurton, near Driffield; W. J. F. V. Baker, Brandeshurton, near Driffield; and Miss E. M. Harrison, Brandeshurton, near Driffield. No initial public issue. The first directors are J. Harrison, P. B. Reckitt, J. E. Marsden, and H. J. E. Marsden. Qualification, 100 shares. Remuneration as fixed by the company. Registered office, North Frodingham, near Driffield.

CROYDEN & CO. (LIMITED).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business of chemists and druggists carried on at 45 Wigmore Street, London, as "Croyden & Co.," to carry on the business of wholesale and retail druggists, chemists, dyssalters, oil and colour men, manufacturers of and

dealers in aerated waters, medicinal and other preparations, oils, colours, varnishes, drugs, and dyewares, makers and vendors of photographic and scientific apparatus and materials, &c., and to adopt an agreement with J. D. Marshall. The first subscribers are: A. C. Cole, Comarques, Lenham Road, Lee, S.E., chemist; W. A. Elkington, 223 High Road, Lee, S.E., chemist; J. D. Marshall, 55 Wigmore Street, W., chemist; Mrs. F. Marshall, 3 Maudeville Place, W.C.; R. Marshall, 3 Maudeville Place, W.C., gentleman; A. F. Dicken, 2-10 Pancras Lane, E.C., chartered accountant; and J. B. Brent, 51 Station Road, Redhill, clerk. No initial public issue. The first directors are J. D. Marshall and Florence J. Marshall.

TREACHER & CO. (LIMITED).—Mr. Alex. Mackenzie presided on July 31 at the general meeting of shareholders, held at the firm's premises, E-planade Road, Bombay. Particulars of the annual report of the directors were given in last week's issue (page 340). The chairman said the accounts of the company had been circulated to the shareholders. The Board had made a statement in connection with those accounts, and the only reason why further details were not given was because the directors did not think they should be given to the general public. There were in the office open to the inspection of the shareholders full statements from which the accounts and memorandum had been drawn up, but if they were produced before the meeting the statements would be in the hands of the Press and would be published. This he did not think it wise to have done, but it was for the meeting to say what course they chose to adopt. He would have been glad to propose, if it met with the shareholders' wishes, that a small sub-committee of the shareholders should be appointed to investigate and report. But certain statements had been asked for, and if it was the wish of the meeting they would be presented. He believed that the accounts were now thoroughly correct, and in the statements that had been prepared he had every confidence, for they had been carefully vouched for by professional auditors. It was a most unfortunate position for the affairs of a company like theirs to be in, but he had great faith in the future of the concern. The chairman having at this stage stated that the manager would be prepared to give any information that might be asked for, the meeting resolved that the Press representatives should be excluded from the meeting, the proposer of the resolution to that effect stating he understood, from the chairman's remarks, that the only objection to their not going into details was due to the presence of the reporters. The latter retired, and after some discussion a committee, consisting of Messrs. W. F. Hamilton, Mair Merwanjee Nusserwanjee Cama, Dr. K. N. Sahair, and Mr. Ardeshir E. Dalal, was appointed to examine the accounts and stock, and report within a month.

New Books.

Cox, Charles. *How and Where to Insure*. 1s net. (Effingham Wilson.) [An interesting and useful manual for those who wish to get good and independent advice regarding life-insurance.]

Cuff, H. E. *A Course of Lectures on Medicine to Nurses* 4th ed. 7½ x 4½. Pp. 273. 7s. 6d. (Churchill.)

Dhingra, M. L. *Elementary Bacteriology*. Illus. 7½ x 4½. Pp. 160. 3s. net. (Longmans.)

Dowse, T. S. *Lectures on Massage and Electricity in the Treatment of Disease*. 4th and revised ed. 8½ x 5½. 7s. 6d. (Wright & Co., Bristol.)

London Matriculation Directory, No. 34. With list of textbooks for use under new regulations. Cr. 8vo. Pp. 142. Sewed. 1s. net. (Clive.)

Oertel, T. E. *Medical Microscopy*. Roy. 8vo. 9s. net. (Rebman.)

Startin, J. *A Pharmacopœia of Diseases of the Skin*. Containing concise formulae for baths, mixtures, ointments, lotions, caustics, rules of diet. Classification and therapeutical index. 5th ed. 3½ x 5½. Pp. 64. 2s. 6d. (J. Wright & Co., Bristol.)

Stevens, A. A. *Modern Materia Medica and Therapeutics*. 3rd ed. 9½ x 5½. Pp. 662. 16s. net. (Saunders.)

Snyder C. *New Conceptions in Science. With a Foreword on Relations of Science and Progress*. 8½ x 5½. Pp. 374. 7s. 6d. (Harper.)

Thomson, Mabel. *The Apothecaries' Hall Manual*. 6½ x 3½. Pp. 237 + Index. 2s. (Whittaker.)

Outings.

The West Ham Chemists' Association organised a cycle-run which took place on August 13. The party started from the Eagle, Snaresbrook, at 3.30, after being photographed, and visited Waltham Abbey, Copt Hall, and Abridge. Tea was served at the Blue Boar, Abridge, and after that the ride home was taken through Woodford. The weather was all that could be desired, and, but for the "punctures"—one member's back tyre requiring seven patches—the run was most enjoyable.

The nineteenth annual excursion of the employés of Messrs. Potter & Clarke, Artillery Lane, E., took place to Clacton-on-Sea on August 15. In the absence of the other partners of the firm, who sent good wishes by wire or letter, Mr. R. C. Wren took the chair at the dinner, which was held at the Osborné Hotel. Mr. Watmore proposed the toast of "The Firm," to which the Chairman replied, congratulating the company upon their increased numbers—between eighty and ninety employés being present. The firm had to chronicle progress from year to year, and there was no doubt that the excellent work put in by their fellow-workers was a large factor in their success.

The members of the Peterborough Chemists' Association visited Stamford on August 13. There were present Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Pearson (Peterborough), Mr. and Mrs. C. Bailey (Uppingham), Mr. and Mrs. J. Farr (Yaxley), Mr. and Mrs. Robinson (Stamford), and Messrs. J. W. Bodger (Peterborough), S. Booth (Peterborough), T. J. Calcutt (Peterborough), F. Dickenson (Stamford), W. R. Edwards (Market Deeping), J. Green (Peterborough), G. A. Johnson (Stamford), H. E. Noble (Peterborough), J. S. Prior (Stamford), John Sturton (Peterborough), Fred Sturton (Peterborough), F. W. Whitwell (Peterborough), and J. E. Saunders (Peterborough). The party first visited Burleigh House, the fine mansion of the Marquis of Exeter, then drove to Easton-on-the-Hill, passing Wothorpe ruins. Returning to Stamford the Corporation regalia was shown by the kind permission of the Mayor. The party then visited an ancient crypt near St. Mary's Church. High tea was served at the Stamford Hotel at 5 P.M. Subsequently the printing of the *Stamford Mercury*, one of the oldest papers in the United Kingdom, was found very interesting, and the inspection of Brown's Hospital ended a most successful and enjoyable outing—the first of this young Society.

An old correspondent sends us the following racy account of the picnic of the Torquay Chemists' Association held on August 12. We withhold the blue pencil, as the narrative is a change from the formal accounts which we generally receive:—

"Throw physic to the dogs, we'll have none of it," said the gay and festive chemists of Torquay on Wednesday last, as when seated on a four horsed coach they started upon a thirty-miles' drive to inaugurate their first annual picnic. Seventeen members and friends (including several ladies) formed the party, with Mr. Newlyn (President) at their head, whilst Dartmouth and Paignton were represented by Mr. Humphry and Mr. Sherriff respectively. The route taken was through Lord Clifford's beautiful estate, Ugbrook Park, famous for its deer and wooded scenery. On this occasion, however, the deer appeared to have been transformed into colonies of rabbits. The quaint and picturesque village of Chudleigh was next visited, where a halt for an hour was called to enable a visit to be paid to the glen and rock, whilst several seized the opportunity to "inspect" the Clifford Arms. After rejoining the coach, the drive was continued across the heath to Bovey, where a most excellent tea was provided at the Railway Hotel.

The absence of any plan for arranging the company around the tea-table proved the truth of the adage, "It takes an old man to beat a young one," for two or three of the fathers of the flock were to be seen seated at one end of the table surrounded by all the charming ladies present, whilst the young bloods were congregated in an apparently highly nervous state at the opposite end, near the door, ready to beat a hasty retreat in case speeches were demanded. It was eventually decided not to spoil the picnic with speech-making, much to the relief of the latter gentlemen, and to the disappointment of the talkative members, who had evidently come prepared with speeches in their pockets. After tea all wended their way to the fringe of mighty Dartmoor to inhale its invigorating breezes, gather bouquets of heather, and,

finally, to submit to the torture of being photographed by artist Gray, who had come specially prepared with a strong camera fitted with toughened glass. It may be noted that the Association were careful to select the opposite side of the moor to the famous convict establishment at Princetown, most of the company being of opinion that discretion was the better part of valour. If Mother Shipton had prophesied that the chemists of Torquay would ever be photographed in a group she would have been laughed to scorn, for previous to the formation of the local Association chemists who had been in business in the town for upwards of twenty-five years scarcely knew or spoke to each other. All this is now changed, for every chemist in business is a member of the Association, and the utmost good feeling and friendship exist among the craft. The drive home, *via* Stover and Newton Abbot, was much enjoyed, all voting the first outing an unqualified success.

Westminster Wisdom.

(From our Parliamentary Representative.)

ARMY VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.

On August 14, in reply to Mr. W. McKillop, who asked the Secretary for War if he is aware that the leaders of the veterinary profession have advised their recent graduates not to join the Army Veterinary Department under the existing warrant, will he state how many men the Department are in want of, and how many men were up at the last examination, and how many passed; and also if the report of the committee on the Army Veterinary Department is yet signed, and, if so, will he give the date of signing and lay it upon the table of the House, Mr. Brodrick replied: I am aware that veterinary surgeons have been advised in certain publications not to enter the Army Department, but the heads of the Veterinary College disclaim any such advice. The number of vacancies is now forty. At the last examination there were four candidates, and two failed medically, and the other two failed to qualify. The report was signed on April 8. It is not proposed to publish it, but action is being taken with regard to it.

IRISH PRISON DISPENSERS.

In the House of Commons on August 14, Dr. MacDonnell asked the Irish Secretary whether his attention had been called to a case of poisoning in Maryborough prison, and to the fact that the medicines required for the use of the inmates are under the charge of a dispenser without qualification, and, if so, whether he would consider the advisability of appointing a duly qualified chemist to this prison. Mr. Wyndham, in reply, said: The hon. member doubtless refers to the occurrence in January last in Maryborough prison. On that occasion a number of persons took ill from the effects of hellebore-powder inadvertently placed in their food. The powder, which is not a scheduled poison, was not kept in the prison as a medicine, but in the general stores as an insecticide for use on the prison farm. No permanently injurious effects followed, and the use of the powder has since been discontinued. All medicines for the use of the inmates of the prison are under the charge of a medical officer, who dispenses them. It is not considered necessary to give him the assistance of a pharmaceutical chemist.

American Notes.

AMERICAN CHICLE COMPANY.—The annual meeting of the American Chicle Company was held in Jersey City on July 21, when dividends at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum were declared on the ordinary shares, and at the rate of 6 per cent. on the preferred stock. The dividends absorb \$900,000, leaving a surplus of \$776,000.

ABSORPTION.—The committee appointed by the stockholders of the \$3,000,000 Rochester Optical and Camera Company has come to an agreement with the Eastman Kodak Company, by which Mr. Eastman takes possession upon terms, it is said, considerably more advantageous than the first offer of \$400,000 formerly made by him. The holders of preferred stock will get a portion of their money back, but the holders of common stock will receive practically nothing.

Scientific Progress.

Vinum Colchici.—Knnz-Krause has observed a hard crystalline deposit in several samples of vinum colchici which had been kept for some time. On analysis these crystals were found to consist of a hydrated tartrate of lime. It is clear that the sherry used in such samples had been "plastered," and it is therefore necessary to ensure its freedom from calcium sulphate before use.

Salbromin.—This new remedy is a dibromo-methyl salicylate of the formula $C_6H_2Br_2(COOCH_3)(OH)$. It is a white odourless powder of little taste, insoluble in water and acids, but soluble in dilute alkalis. It contains 44.5 per cent. of salicylic acid and 51.6 per cent. of bromine. It is a powerful anti-rheumatic.

The Chemistry of Spilanthes Olevacea.—Gerher (*Archiv. du Pharm.*, 1903, 4) has examined this herb, and has extracted from it an essential oil of sp. gr. 0.847 and optical rotation $+1^\circ 50'$. He has also extracted a syrupy compound, which he terms spilanthal, which on hydrolysis yields a nitrogeneous base whose hydrochloride melts at 163° .

The "Helfenberger Annalen."—The 1903 issue of this useful report is to hand, and contains a good deal of detailed information on pharmaceutical preparations. We notice that, apart from the actual yearly report of work done, a table of useful information as to the preparation of standard solutions and indicators is given, as well as the latest list of "international" atomic weights. Resins and balsams naturally fill some space, and we notice the following figures for balsam of Peru, the analysis of which is often a matter of trouble: Sp. gr., 1.143; acid-value, 84; ester-value, 161; saponification-value, 248; cinnaein, 61.6 per cent.; saponification-value of the cinnaein, 236.3. Siam benzoin yielded the following limits:

Acid-value	126.2
Ester-value	96.4—95.0
Saponification-value	221.2—222.6
Ash	0.27 per cent.
Insoluble in spirit	3.6 ..

Jalap resin, colophony, and the varnish resins are also dealt with. Nine normal samples of ergot of rye were examined and found to contain from 0.18 to 0.37 per cent. of alkaloids, whilst four impure samples contained only 0.031 to 0.060 per cent. A number of interesting analyses of liquorice-juce are quoted, all the samples being of known and reliable origin. The limits for eight samples are as follows:

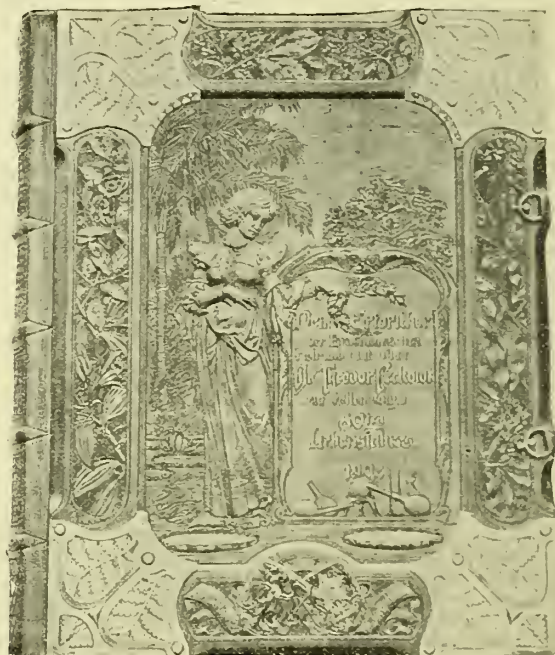
Moisture	Ash	Glycyrrhizin	Watery extract
Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
15.03—23.46	6.54—7.7	14.27—25.56	74.88—80.4

Contrary to the absurd Hamburg analyses one frequently sees of Rio Ipecacuanha, Dieterich finds only an average of about 2.1 per cent. of emetine, and about 2.4 per cent. for the Cartageua variety. There is much useful information, with analyses for a large number of other preparations and drugs, and the present issue has not lost any of the interest of the past volumes of the series.

Radium Heat.—Strenuous efforts have lately been made to obtain accurate measurements of the heat-production of radium, and to determine the effect of external conditions in promoting or retarding it. M. Curie has just communicated to the French Physical Society a paper stating the results of a recent inquiry. It appears that at the time of his lecture at the Royal Institution in June the resources of that laboratory in producing and manipulating liquid gases were utilised in a new series of experiments. Professor Dewar had already in 1893 improved the calorimetric use of liquid gases by means of a combination of vacuum-vessels so that heat-evolution at the temperature of boiling liquid air or hydrogen could be determined with accuracy. When a sample of radium bromide weighing 0.7 gram was tested in this way it was found to be capable of volatilising an amount of liquid oxygen and hydrogen equivalent respectively to 6 c.c. and 73 c.c. of the gases measured at the ordinary temperature. It seems that through a very wide range of temperature the thermal emission remains unchanged. Whether at the temperature of a summer day or at that of liquid air, the emission of heat goes on without perceptible variation. When, however, radium is tested with liquid hydrogen, it shows that it is not always unaffected by external temperature. Within a comparatively short distance of the absolute zero a change occurs in the rate of heat-emission, but not in the direction that might be anticipated in view of the effect of low temperatures on ordinary chemical action. Instead of being reduced, the emission of heat, so far as present data can be relied on, is augmented at the temperature of liquid hydrogen. (Sir Oliver Lodge, referring to the mystery of radium, says there is no difficulty in accounting for the energy of radium on the hypothesis that a rearrangement of parts is going on inside the atom, and that it is not a case of chemical action in the ordinary sense.—*Times*.)

A Veteran Scientist.

WE illustrate the front cover of an album presented to the venerable Dr. Theodor Peckoldt by 113 of his scientific colleagues on the attainment of his eightieth birthday. Dr. Peckoldt has done much to familiarise the world with the medicinal plants of Brazil, his researches in that branch of study being unique. The ornamentation on the album is an illustrative reproduction of the plants with



which Dr. Peckoldt worked. The album contains a short address of congratulation, the autographs and signed portraits of the donors, and photographs of all the places at which Dr. Peckoldt served as an apotheker, as well as his birthplace and the university at which he studied. The address is as follows:

Greatly respected Colleague,—The rare fortune has befallen you of being able in your eightieth year to help with youthful vigour in the furtherance of our science. With hands which have never wearied and very little aid you have in the course of your life, which has been rich in scientific success, helped to an enormous degree to build up our science, and you have taught us as no other could to know the Brazilian medicinal and other plants and their constituent parts. Your colleagues remember to day with gratitude the great advance which pharmacognosy owes to you, the spirited pioneer of European culture and science, and they send you the warmest congratulations from the old country across the seas.

In a letter dated August 5, in which he acknowledges receipt of the "beautiful present," Dr. Peckoldt modestly writes: "It is difficult to describe what a pleasure and surprise the gift has given me—a man grown old under the tropical sun. I never hoped or expected to be so richly rewarded for my few works of such slight scientific importance." Professor A. Tschirch, of Berne, was a leading spirit in the presentation.

For the four months ending April, 1903, the imports of drugs and chemicals into Cape Colony amounted to 155,000*l.*, against 126,000*l.* for the corresponding period of 1901.

There was a falling off in the value of the exports of Japanese soap from Kobe and Osaka last year, 19,000*l.* worth being shipped against 26,000*l.* worth in 1901. It is all shipped to China.

RADIUM FOR CANCER.—Dr. A. G. Bell, Baddeck, N.S., suggests in *Nature* that a fragment of radium sealed up in a fine glass tube and inserted into the heart of a cancer would be the best way of acting on the diseased material.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

The Educational Number

of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST excites two very different currents of reflection. One of these inspires pictures of glorious youth, with its hopes, its ambitions, its vigour, and its joys. It is the period of study, of companionship, of new experiences, of healthy recreations, of plans for the future. The course has been designed with much care, the fences are sometimes difficult, but what are difficulties to the young and strong? The spirit of emulation alone, not to speak of the spur of necessity, will suffice to ensure their conquest. By the few to whom a university career, or a few years' residence in Germany, as described by Dr. Martindale, is attainable, it may well be believed, the "happy student days" will never be forgotten. It is well perhaps to maintain an ideal. It may be that we are working up towards it. I do not see many signs of substantial progress towards it, however. The other current of thought seems to be the truer reflection of actual conditions.

A Thousand Young Fellows,

two thousand perhaps—possibly more—are at this moment in Great Britain struggling more or less hopelessly to pass the barriers which have been placed in the path leading to pharmaceutical qualification. Of these a small proportion will be the better for the discipline, but the majority will come out of it with their faculties, which were once healthy and strong for certain careers, warped by being forced into grooves for which they were not adapted, and which will lead to no useful goal—at least, for them. Mr. Lucas's brief sketch of the qualifying examination as it now exists, on page 311, is very suggestive. It compels the question whether we have not gone too fast and too far. Mr. Lucas shows that the scope and severity of the examination have at least doubled since 1891. "The introduction into the examination-room of professorial examiners in 1895 with little or no sympathy for pharmacy" was an indication of the prevailing spirit. Coincidentally the standard of general education as measured by the Preliminary examination has been raised almost to that of University Matriculation, so that whatever the ultimate result in education may be, the strain on the candidate has been stretched almost to breaking-point.

The Justification

of this rapid advance is, of course, as stated by Mr. Lucas, the importance for the pharmacist of maintaining his relative position towards the general public, more highly educated than it once was. That contention is plausible, but it entirely begs the question. It assumes that examinations spell education, and it ignores the weighty objections to the system of testing all progress by them which the most thoughtful of our scholars have been raising since they became so essential a feature in our modern life and let it not be forgotten that they are very modern indeed. Examinations have cultivated the art of "getting-up" subjects. A very useful art that is, too. The advocate who can do it most skilfully makes his way to the Bench thereby, and in most walks of life it is often a profitable accomplishment. But it is not what was once known as education.

If our Object

is to convert three-fourths of our present chemists' shops into oil-shops for the benefit of the remaining one-fourth, which will become profitable high-class pharmacies, the course adopted is intelligent and intelligible. In that case the present "dearth of apprentices," which is

probably only beginning, is the first-fruit of our policy and the distinct evidence of its success.

Parliament has Adjourned,

and its members have proceeded to their various sports, regardless that they have left unconsidered the Pharmacy Bill and some scores of other measures which, by admitting to a first reading, they have recognised as worthy of attention. That we are a poor and puny folk is not a creditable answer to our claim for justice, but it is the one that every M.P. gives us in effect. Is there any prospect of getting the Bill through next Session or in the next twenty Sessions? None whatever, I should say—that is to say, as a separate Act. You must abandon Clause 7, say our advisers. Will the Bill pass then, and, if it does, will it be any good? Its chances would be much the same, and its effect would be almost *nil*. The outlook is certainly not cheering, but for all that I hope those who are responsible for the promotion of the measure will stand staunchly behind it. It declares a definite and a reasonable policy, and when the time comes—as it must come some day—when the Government want to do something in our direction, this Bill will face them. Then we shall get our chance of defending its principle before a Committee, the Unqualified will get their chance too, and let the best arguments win.

The Election System

by which the House of Commons is chosen is by no means satisfactory. Mr. John Stuart Mill, Professor Fawcett, and others incessantly argued that under it a large part of the nation might not be represented at all. They wanted to give the opportunity for every class and every fad, even, which could muster the necessary votes for an electoral unit, to have its member. The electoral unit was to be the total electorate, divided by the number of seats in the House. The present average of electors to each representative is 8,518, so that under such an arrangement chemists would have a chance of getting at least one expressly chosen member in the House.

The Magistrate

in the Blaud's-pills case reported last week made a passing comment on the label defence which revealed the limitations of that protection to the seller more clearly perhaps than these are generally realised. If an article not of the nature, substance, and quality demanded is sold for such article, it is not a sufficient defence to affix a label saying this is not the article it should be. The label is only effective when it refers to a mixture, and explains that something has been added to the proper article, and that something must not be injurious to health, and must not be added with fraudulent intent. How does this interpretation affect such a label as "Soap Liniment. Methylated"? I judge that, strictly, that label would not be a sufficient defence.

Taxing Taxes

is a refinement of fiscal ingenuity the credit of which is due to Australia. The Customs authorities of the Commonwealth, I read, have decided that stamped proprietary medicines must pay import-duty on their full value, including the cost of the stamps. This is a pretty little plant on buyers and sellers. The Mother Country first charges a duty on certain products, and thus artificially increases their cost, so that when they get to Australia the Government there can exact an extra halfpenny on each article. The buyer ordered pills, not stamps, but the tax-gatherer says he must regard the stamps as pills and pay accordingly. When the process is reversed, and we order pickles, and get saccharin, the same official, if he discovers the misnomer, says, "Treble duty, or go to prison."

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The "Sanitas" Co., Lim.,

are the exclusive Manufacturers of the well-known Non-poisonous

"SANITAS" PREPARATIONS,

and their other Manufactures include

"Soldis," "Okol," "Creoclide," "Och'lor,"

"Kingzett's Patent Sulphur Fumigating Candles,"

"Sulphugators," "Formle Sulphugators," "Formle Air Purifiers,"

"Formle Fumigators," "Formle Aldehyde"

(40 per cent. Solution, Tablets, and Powder),

Kingzett's Patent Drain Testers, Snep Dips, Weed Killer,

Patent Preserved Peroxide of Hydrogen, and Carbolic Fluids, Powders, and Soaps.

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FARRINGTON ROAD, LONDON, E.C.

No. 1 Finest Pure CRUSHED LINSEED	20/6 ¹ / ₂ cwt.	Finest Pure STARCH POWDER	22/ ¹ / ₂ cwt.
No. 1 Pure CRUSHED LINSEED	19/6 ¹ / ₂ cwt.	No. 1 Finest Light Pure PRECIPITATED CHALK	25/ ¹ / ₂ cwt.
Best Cleaned LINSEED (TEA)	21/ ¹ / ₂ cwt.	EPSOM SALTS, E.S.S. Purified, Clean, and Dry.	9/ ¹ / ₂ cwt.
No. 1 Finest Pure FULLER'S EARTH (Light Colour)	15/ ¹ / ₂ cwt.	Finest Levigated "WHITE EARTH" (Toilet purposes).	18/ ¹ / ₂ cwt.
Finest TART. ACID	Lowest Cur. Prices	Finest Pure TOILET OATMEAL, SPECIAL	32/ ¹ / ₂ cwt.
Finest Pure LIQUORICE JUICE	1/10 ¹ / ₂ lb.	Finest ARROWROOT	1/ ¹ / ₂ lb.

* CARRIAGE PAID to Railway Stations within 200 miles of London (or allowance made for distances beyond) on a total weight of 112 lbs. and upwards of above articles. Smaller parcels delivered free on rail London at above prices.

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PROPRIETARY MEDICINES**

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SPT. ETHER. NIT.
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Deserves the gratitude of medicine and pharmacy.
Fletcher, Fletcher & Co., London & Sydney.

Editorial Comments.

The Principal Active Ingredients.

THE communication which we publish this week from the Board of Inland Revenue may by some be taken as a justification of the waiting policy and by others as the result of the active interest taken by chemists in the new interpretation of the Medicine-stamp Act. The fact remains that an important concession—or, rather, a recognition of the rights of chemists—is contained in the following letter:

S. 23743.
1903.
Stamps.

Inland Revenue,
Somerset House,
London, W.C.,
14th August, 1903.

SIR,—Adverting to the recent decisions of the Court in the cases of Ransom v. Sanguinetti and Farmer v. Glyn-Jones, I am directed by the Board of Inland Revenue to acquaint you that they have now decided not to regard a full statement of the formula as a condition necessary to bring a medicine within the scope of the exemption in favour of "known, admitted, and approved" remedies, and they will be satisfied if the label contains an adequate indication of the ingredients of the medicine.

The Board would regard as being *prima facie* within the scope of the exemption medicines described by such titles as "Quinine-and-iron tonic" or "Compound rhubarb pills," provided the titles in each case disclose the principal ingredients of the preparation.

I am to add that, in view of the impossibility of determining from an inspection of a label whether the ingredients of the medicine to which it relates are thereby adequately disclosed, the Board must in future decline to advise chemists whether or not the terms of a particular label are such as to bring the medicine within the scope of the exemption.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,
E. E. STODLEY,
Secretary.

The Editor of
THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

The Board have probably decided not to enforce the new deductions too stringently after a consideration of the difficulties which have been produced, or it may be that we have here another example of the cautious procedure for which official bodies are rather noted. Previous pronouncements on the question of placing the ingredients on the label have been as follows:

The Board... have decided not to press for payment of medicine stamp-duty in cases where an article is sold by a duly

qualified chemist or druggist under such a designation as "cough-mixture," provided that the composition of the article is fully disclosed in the label or that the article is prepared in accordance with a formula in the British Pharmacopœia or other well-known book of reference, and that a statement to that effect is inserted in the label.—*C. & D.*, June 6.

It was stated in the House of Commons in the early part of July that—

Payment of duty will not be required in respect of a preparation which bears upon the label an indication of its ingredients, &c.—*C. & D.*, July 18.

It was also more definitely stated, in a letter to Mr. Forster, Seaham Harbour, that a certain label rendered the medicine liable to duty because the quantities of the ingredients were not stated on the label.

The concession now made admits of considerable latitude to a chemist. "Quinine-and-iron tonic" is a sufficient disclosure of the contents of a recommended mixture provided the principal active ingredients are quinine and iron. In the case of "compound rhubarb pills," these may be recommended, and no further reference to the origin of the formula need be made. Until the receipt of this letter we have held that such pills could not be recommended unless a statement that the pills were "prepared according to the B.P." was given on the label. The following examples will make the effect of the concession more apparent. A cough-mixture is put up made from such a formula as this :

Tr. camph. co.	...	...	...	3iiss.
Syr. scillæ	...	...	...	3v.
Mel. rosæ	...	...	...	3iiss.
Syr. rhæados	...	...	...	3iiss.
Aq. chloroformi ad	...	...	...	3xx.

If such a preparation is simply labelled "Cough-mixture," it is rendered liable to medicine stamp-duty, but neither of the following labels incurs liability :

PAREGORIC AND SQUILL
COUGH-MIXTURE.

An excellent mixture for coughs and colds.

COUGH-MIXTURE

(Prepared according to the *C. & D.* DIARY).

Effectual in relieving and curing chest complaints.

A pile-ointment made of—

Pulv. gallæ	...	...	...	3ij.
Pulv. opii	...	...	...	gr. xx.
Terræ rosæ	...	...	...	gr. xx.
Ol. geranii	...	...	...	℥v.
Paraff. molle	...	...	...	3ss.
Paraff. dur.	...	...	...	3ss.

could in like manner be labelled "Gall-and-opium pile-ointment." "Iodised Sarsaparilla Mixture" and "Compound Chalk and Catechu" are other examples which could be used as descriptions of mixtures that may be recommended for purifying the blood and for curing diarrhœa.

The final paragraph in the letter from the Board of Inland Revenue indicates that in future advice as to liability to medicine stamp-duty will not be so freely given as formerly. Of late, as we have reason to know, an enormous number of labels have been sent to Somerset House for a statement as to liability, but it is now the intention of the Board to check the practice.

The necessity for standard books of reference for indica-

tion on labels still exists, as it is obvious that the application of the latest concession is limited. THE Standard Books of Reference. CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY and "Pharmaceutical Formulas" have, as previously announced, been definitely recognised as such. The next issue of the CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY is to contain a large number of formulæ for counter-remedies. We have to thank our subscribers for the liberal response they have made to our offer to include their formulæ in the DIARY, and we would like to remind those of our readers, both in the retail and wholesale trade, who have not yet sent in formulæ of the advantages of having their recipes embodied in a standard work of reference. We shall not indicate the origin of the recipes, and as it is our intention to afterwards republish the formulæ in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," the reference on labels can be either "prepared according to THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY" or "prepared according to 'Pharmaceutical Formulas.'" The DIARY formulas are not to be "a mere compilation," but will comprise hundreds of recipes selected from those in actual use in the principal pharmacies of Great Britain. Various suggestions for the furtherance of our scheme have been made by subscribers from all over the country. We hope to announce a further development in our next issue.

Post-graduate Lectures.

THE suggestion lately put forward by Mr. Glyn-Jones, that the Pharmaceutical Society should establish post-graduate courses of instruction in subjects which have been or may be annexed to the business of chemists and druggists, is one of those proposals which look attractive on the surface, but which hardly bear scrutiny. What are the side-lines which it is intimated might be thus encouraged? Photography, optics, the analysis of urine, and what may be termed agricultural and horticultural pharmacy were the specimens indicated by the proposer of the scheme as illustrations of his idea. These would certainly suffice to start with, and will serve as a basis for the consideration of the innovation.

That chemists and druggists should be experts in one or more of these branches, and that up-to-date pharmacists must be, has been too often urged in these pages to need further advocacy here. And it may be remarked incidentally that nothing has proved more satisfactorily the grit of the modern generation of our qualified men than the readiness which a large number of them have shown to occupy new territories as science has opened these up. In regard to photography particularly, they secured the field and held it just at the time when the popularity of the art began to extend. In thousands of British pharmacies, and even to a greater extent in the Colonies, the photographic department is the most important accessory. In some it has become almost as profitable as the original business. It does not need proving, therefore, that this offshoot of chemistry is worthy of the best attention the coming pharmacist can give it.

Most of the chemists who have acquired a speaking acquaintance with photography, or more, have attained it by more or less personal practice with a camera and in the dark-room, guided by one of the many published manuals on the art. With the scientific basis which the pharmaceutical training necessitates, not much more is necessary. There are, however, no doubt, not a few who are glad to get special instruction, and who can spare the time for it. The suggested post-graduate course is for their benefit.

But is the Pharmaceutical Society the proper body to provide this? There are in London at least a dozen public

institutions where the art and practice of photography are admirably taught. At the Regent Street Polytechnic alone, which is famous for its photographic teaching, there are fifteen distinct evening classes for the study of photographic work in its various developments. The fees there range from 5s. to 10s. 6d. for a course. Can the Pharmaceutical Society hope to rival such an organisation as that?

In optics, too, there are courses of instruction at the Northampton Institute, Clerkenwell, specially arranged to fit candidates for the qualification of the Spectacle-makers' Company. It is hardly likely that the Pharmaceutical Society would care to compete with these. The principles of agriculture and horticulture are to be learnt both in London and the country if it is thought desirable to study them more than superficially, but there is not much that a chemist will need to know for his business that cannot be obtained from the publications of the Board of Agriculture. Finally, if a qualified chemist cannot undertake a simple urine-analysis, it is, as Mr. Gifford has observed, something of a reflection on the examination.

Certainly there are lines in which the special experience of pharmacists who have studied and practised some particular branch of science might be utilised, and a sufficient honorarium would perhaps encourage such experts to give demonstrations. But it would seem to be a waste of good energy for the Society to organise courses of instruction outside its own field of work, and probably to supply then only a second-rate article.

A Board of Reference.

THE decision of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society to "cordially co-operate in bringing about the appointment of a board of reference" under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts is interesting from the fact that some years ago, when the matter was mooted, the Society did not find the subject to concern them. Since then, however, many things have happened, and the "catch" prosecutions instituted under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts have forced the question of standards to the front. In 1895, when a Select Committee of the House of Commons were considering the revision of the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts 1875-1879, Mr. Charles Umney gave it as his opinion that only by the establishment of a court, committee, or board of reference would pharmacists be treated with fairness and justice in case of dispute. We have had the curiosity to turn up our report of Mr. Umney's evidence (*C. & D.*, May 25, 1895, page 714), and find he suggested that the Board should consist of nominees of the General Medical Council, the Inland Revenue authorities (Somerset House), the Institute of Chemistry, the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain and the London Chamber of Commerce. The recommendation was contained in the report of the Committee, but disregarded in the Bill as put before the House of Commons in 1897. Our view of the matter has been that the present Board of Reference—Somerset House—acts as an efficient check on the vagaries of analysts. It does not, it is true, lay down standards, but is it desirable to adopt cast-iron standards for drugs? The difficulty appears also to rest in the composition of a board of reference. Captured by the analysts its standards would probably be ideal but unworkable. A proper representation of pharmacy on the Board would lay the drug-trade open to the charge of trade unionism even more so than does the present administration of the Pharmacy Acts. Nevertheless, the subject of a board of reference is one which may well be ventilated in our columns now that the Pharmaceutical Society have extended their support to the project.

An Urgent Appeal

is being made by the Patent-medicine Vendors' Defence Association for support. The appeal is made to "all patent-medicine vendors, drug-store proprietors, herbalists, and others whose interests are now seriously threatened" by the Pharmaceutical Society's monopoly. The prosecution statistics produced by Mr. Bremridge before the Poison Committee are given, with the names of the proprietary articles involved, and are thus criticised:

That the sale of these well-known preparations should be restricted to qualified men is absurd. There is no more safety to the public in their being handed over the counter by a chemist than any other person holding a patent-medicine licence, even apart from the fact that it cannot seriously be contended they are dangerous. In nearly every case the quantity of poison in the whole contents of a 13½d. bottle is less than the maximum B.P. dose. Also, with perhaps two exceptions, the medicines are compounded by duly qualified chemists and druggists.

The circular goes on to say that "the pretence of protecting the public is a hollow pretence for keeping a monopoly of certain articles which are in constant request and bring customers to the shops. The convenience of the public is not considered." We cannot refrain from giving the last sentences even at the risk of a free advertisement for the headache-powders:

Urgent.—Referring to the more serious proposal by the Pharmaceutical Society to attempt to schedule hydrochloric acid and nitric acid, and other poisonous substances such as pyrogallol bichromate (salts of lemon, under oxalic acid and its salts), butyr of antimony, &c. No doubt you have been a retailer of these for years past. We request you to send us at once a series of the poison-labels used by you for these substances at your earliest convenience, inasmuch as some of the evidence given before the Committee is totally inaccurate and misleading, with regard to the distribution of the above substances by drug-dealers and others since 1868, either in large or small quantities. We have overwhelming evidence to refute these statements. It should be noted that acetanilidum and its preparations have been proposed to be scheduled by the Pharmaceutical Society, and now only awaits confirmation by his Majesty's Privy Council. This will set up another monopoly in such a well-known preparation as the Kaputine headache powder, the therapeutic properties of which are well known to the trade as an absolutely safe remedy, and if scheduled would seriously affect fully one thousand drug-store proprietors alone, exclusive of other vendors.

A subscription-form is enclosed with the circular for funds to "carry out the plan of campaign against the monopolists," and, curiously enough, it is stated that chemists and druggists support the Association, and the circular we have before us was sent to a registered chemist.

Proprietaries in Germany.

The new regulations regarding patent medicines or "secret remedies" in Germany (*C. & D.*, July 25, page 140) are not meeting with universal approval. The action of the authorities is adversely criticised by a correspondent in the *Frankfurter Zeitung* of recent date. He writes from the manufacturers' point of view, and states that those who from the beginning have regarded patent medicines with scepticism will not be able to dispute that among the ninety-five remedies prohibited by the new legislation are to be found some that have been in the trade for half-a-century, and have afforded relief to mankind. The manufacturers of these remedies place more value upon the acknowledgments of their customers than upon the certificates of certain doctors who have made the recommendation of products of the pharmaceutical industry a kind of speciality, and who, on the other hand, keep themselves from the other "specialists" who "prove scientifically" the worthlessness of this or that patent medicine, as the case may be. The latter point has obviously been borne in mind by the German Federal Council, since the new regulations will only render it difficult to trade in patent medicines, but will not entirely prohibit them, although the provisions shoot far beyond the mark. The application of the regulations will not only

mean a heavy loss to the pharmaceutical industry, but it will also seriously affect printing and lithographic works, paper and cardboard producers, and glass-bottle and cork makers, to say nothing of the incidental loss of wages and taxes. Moreover, the prohibition against advertising patent medicines in newspapers will open the door to fraud. It will permit any apotheker to manufacture a new remedy, and substitute that for the "genuine patent medicine," without the producer of the latter learning anything of the illicit competition. Should it then, the correspondent asks, always be left to accident for the manufacturer of the original patent medicine to defend himself against such competition? Even in the wholesale trade such imitations will in future be able to assert themselves for a long time, in consequence of the prohibition of advertisements. Hitherto many of the interested firms have enjoyed for many years the protection afforded by the Trade-marks Act for their labels and trade-marks, and have paid taxes for the privilege. Are these makers in future to be even prohibited from reminding the public of these marks for the protection of their products? It would be far better, the correspondent concludes, for the British system of a patent-medicine stamp to be introduced.

Medicine Stamp-duty Increases.

The amount of medicine stamp-duty collected is the only means available by which we can judge of the consumption of proprietary medicines in Great Britain. According to the report of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue in the year ending March 31, 1903, the amount received was 333,371*l.*—an increase of 27,031*l.* over the previous year. The increase is in England, the separate figures for Scotland remaining practically the same for the last ten years. There has never been such a big increase over the former year as is shown by the latest returns, the previous record being an increase of 22,000*l.* What is the cause of the increase it is difficult to say; but perhaps the vigour which the Inland Revenue authorities have exercised in looking out for unstamped medicines may account for part. Among the legal cases affecting the Excise short accounts of *Ransom v. Sanguinetti* and *The King v. Sharpe* are given. The same report in which these particulars are contained deals with the amounts received from spirit-duties, and makes special reference to the provisions of the Finance Act, 1902, in regard to duty-free alcohol. So much was expected from this Act by manufacturers, and, owing to the caution of the Commissioners, so little has been accomplished, that it is not surprising to read the net results as follows:

In pursuance of the section, the privilege of receiving spirit duty-free has been granted in a considerable number of cases, those of institutions for the advancement of science or of scientific education being the most numerous.

The quantity of spirit methylated during the year increased to 5,451,689 proof gals., 4,239,688 proof gals. being home-made spirit.

The Control of London.

Some of the items in the recently issued report of the Public Control Committee of the London County Council, of which Mr. C. Goddard Clarke is Chairman, supply food for thought. The matters dealt with by the Public Control Department are varied. One of the duties of the Department relates to the appointment and payment of Coroners and the regulation of the cost of holding inquests. During 1902, 7,729 inquests were held in the county of London, exclusive of about two hundred held in the City of London, and the cost per inquest averaged 3*l.* 15*s.* 9*d.*—the lowest average figure since the introduction of payment to juries in 1898. The salaries of the Coroners depend in a measure on the number of inquests, Dr. G. Danford Thomas, the

Coroner for the Central District, receiving 2,263*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.* for 1,652 inquests, Dr. Wynn Westcott 1,535*l.* 14*s.* 8*d.* for 1,138 inquests, and Dr. Wynne E. Baxter 1,952*l.* 16*s.* for 1,513 inquests. Reference is made to the appointment of skilled pathologists to conduct *post-mortem* examinations. The medical profession objected to the Coroners calling in Dr. Freyberger to the detriment of the ordinary practitioner, and this objection has been met by the appointment of a panel of seventeen medical men, mostly connected with hospitals, any one of whom is at the service of a Coroner requiring skilled advice. The number of weights verified and stamped in the county of London during 1902 was 278,906, measures 1,420,871, weighing-instruments 20,453. The decision in the case of *King v. Roberts* that the Council must charge 1*d.* a measure for stamping publicans' glass measures has resulted in a marked diminution in the number of measures stamped. Four-fifths of the measures are for publicans' use. There is little indication of the general adoption of the metric system in London according to the report, but its use is growing in the export trade. The Shop-hours Acts have been systematically administered, and with little hardship. When, however, such cases arise the facts are communicated to the Industrial Law Indemnity Fund, which affords help to the young person if dismissal occurs as a consequence of the Council's enforcement of the Act. In the report of petroleum-spirit accidents there is recorded a case where a chemist, mistaking benzine for lime-water, measured it out near a lamp. The shop was much damaged by the fire which ensued. The injection of mallein for diagnosing glanders is favourably spoken of, but it is acknowledged that the law is at present inadequate to enable local authorities to cope with the disease.

Assistants' Agreements.

A recent meeting of the Swansea Grocers' Association discussed the question of forming rules for governing the employment of assistants. In a case at Bristol it was stated that an assistant, who had been absent from business for thirteen weeks, put in a claim against his employer for thirteen weeks' salary (23*l.* 2*s.*), and secured judgment. In another case, it appeared, the Judge commented on the absence of any definite custom in the trade respecting notice to assistants, remarking that something should be done to alter the existing ambiguity. It was decided to submit to the General Purposes Committee a set of rules dealing with assistants' references, illness, notice, and betting. As the same ambiguity on these points exists in the drug-trade, the question might well form a subject of discussion at association meetings.

Light in the Lab.

A correspondent writes to the London *Standard* with regard to the lighting of the chemical laboratory at the University of London. During the recent examination in practical chemistry held in that laboratory, candidates, the writer declares, had to work in an insufficient artificial light far inferior to that found in the laboratories of most provincial centres. The illumination was so poor that it was well-nigh impossible to see the delicate colour-changes that are so important in practical work, and the complainant confidently attributes the failure of a number of the candidates to that cause alone. If this be the cause, it is inexcusable; for one would naturally expect a building of such national importance to contain the best facilities for the fair examination of its candidates.

TWENTY TONS of perfumery was shipped from Barcelona last year, against 19 tons in 1901 and 11 tons in 1900.

THE Matara correspondent of the *Ceylon Observer* says the citronella industry is reviving. From Weligama to Matara large tracts of land are under cultivation with this grass. Cinnamon is also cultivated to some extent.

Personalities.

IN the list of "passive resisters" at Swindon appear the names of Mr. John J. Shawyer, chemist and druggist, 12 Wood Street, and of Mr. Stafford A. Warner, chemist and druggist, 29 Regent Circus.

SHREWSBURY has conferred the freedom of the borough on Mr. W. Phillips, who is an eminent botanist and has written what is acknowledged as the best book on fungi. Mr. Phillips is regarded as a European authority on cryptogamic botany.

THE BARONESS DE BUSH is most grateful for the many kind inquiries and great sympathy which she has received during the time of her terrible affliction. The present weak state of her health prevents the Baroness from thanking each friend individually.

MR. PHILIP J. SHACKLOCK, chemist and druggist, Mansfield, met with a serious accident on August 17 while cycling. It appears that another cyclist collided with Mr. Shacklock, and both were injured, Mr. Shacklock having received a slight concussion of the brain.

THE name of Mr. N. G. Blackwell (son of Mr. J. Blackwell, of Messrs. Blackwell, Hayes & Co., Birmingham) appears in King Edward's High School list as having passed first class in the recent Matriculation examination of London University. Mr. N. G. Blackwell is now in the laboratory of his father's firm.

COUNCILLOR RALPH SHORROCK, chemist and druggist, has been unanimously elected an Alderman by the Darwen Town Council. The election is a very popular one, and many of Mr. Shorrocks' friends in the drug-trade will be pleased to learn the further honour which Mr. Shorrocks' fellow townsmen have conferred upon him. Mr. Shorrocks was elected to the Darwen Town Council in 1888, and has served uninterruptedly for fifteen years. He is a chairman and vice-chairman of many of the Council's committees. He is President of the Darwen Tradesmen's Association, President of the local Chemists' Association and a Vice-President of the North-East Lancashire Chemists' Association.

Business Changes.

MR. H. W. HERBERT, chemist and druggist, Egham, has taken over the business of Mr. J. T. Calloway at Ashford, and will carry it on as a branch.

MR. G. A. DANCE, chemist and druggist, has acquired the business at Cillfynydd formerly belonging to Mr. Idwal David, chemist and druggist.

MR. ANTHONY TATE, chemist and druggist, has purchased the business at 7 Belgrave Mansions, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W., formerly belonging to Mr. W. Murton Holmes, pharmaceutical chemist. Mr. Tate was for three years with Messrs. Hooper, Strave & Co. (Limited), of Pall Mall, W.

MR. W. W. GREEN (Messrs. Brookes & Green, drug-brokers, 25 Mincing Lane, E.C.) intimates that owing to the lease of the sale-room and offices expiring shortly he has decided not to continue the business. Mr. Green has made arrangements to represent the old-established firm of Messrs. Bowyer & Bartleet, and will carry on his business at their address, 147 Fenchurch Street, E.C. Mr. C. R. Tapcott, who has been with Mr. Green for many years, will in future represent Messrs. Garrard & Sons, colonial brokers, Dunster House, Mincing Lane, E.C.

THE pharmacy which Messrs. Croyden & Co. (Limited) are fitting up at 55 Wigmore Street, Cavendish Square, W., is probably unique in style. The fittings are of oak, arranged in a Dutch style with heavy cornices and of a somewhat severe type. The lockers, drawers, &c., instead of having glass labels, have beaten-copper labels all made by hand, and also hinges in the ancient style of hand-beaten copper. Instead of having large plate-glass doors to the cases, &c.,

there are large leaded lights. An arch of Dutch shape divides the dispensing-department from the retail, the sides of the arch being composed of a curious green glass and bottle lenses in leaded lights. This colour and style applies also to the poison-cupboards. The basement, which is the same size as the shop, is fitted with mahogany glass fronted cases, so that all stock can be kept as neatly as in the pharmacy. The window-screen is also of oak, and contains sections of tulips in red and green inlaid. The front is white and black, and the inscription in letters, 9 inches long, of hand-beaten copper oxidised.

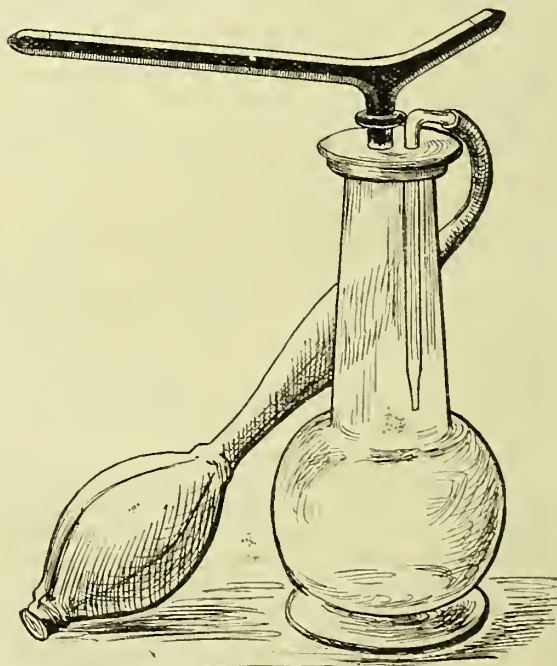
Trade Notes.

THE additions to the P.A.T.A. list of protected articles this month are the Tasmanian Eucalyptus Oil Company's preparations and thermogene.

THE "CONSOL" AÉRATOR made by the British Automatic Aérators (Limited), Alderman House, Alderman's Walk, E.C., of which particulars have been given in recent issues of the *C. & D.*, may be seen working at Messrs. Simpkins, 3 Savoy Street, W.C., by anyone interested in these machines.

WORKMEN'S PROTECTION.—The new catalogue of Messrs. Zimmer & Co., 82 Mark Lane, E.C., is a well printed and illustrated list of the various health-protecting and safety appliances for workmen's use. The respirators, face-protectors, spectacles, and fireproof-clothing used in aerated-water factories and chemical-works, and insulating-gloves adapted for electricians' use, are shown in great variety. The business is an interesting example of the advantage of specialising in one branch of commerce.

A NEW POWDER-SPRAY.—The illustration represents a patent spray invented by Mr. J. Grant Glass, chemist, 123 Gilmore Place, Edinburgh. Mr. Glass claims that his apparatus is an improvement on others of a similar character, when the spraying of menthol, boric acid, iodoform, or other



medicated powders is indicated, in laryngeal or nasal affections. The container is of glass, and so is the inlet-tube to which the rubber air-bellows is attached. The outlet-tube is of vulcanite. The apparatus is known as the "Grant

Glass Antiseptic Pulv. Spray." The tips of the vulcanite tube are removable, and the tube is thus easily kept clean.

MESSRS. JOHN TIMPSON & CO. (LIMITED), 104 Golden Lane, E.C., are calling attention in the Coloured Supplement to a chocolate-coated tablet for which they are agents. The tablet is adapted for putting up as a prompt cure for colds.

COX'S TABLETS.—Last week in the *C. & D.* advertisement-pages Messrs. Arthur H. Cox & Co., Brighton, made a special offer to send free samples of cascara, digestive, and phenacetin tablets. We have since received a set of samples such as are being sent out in large numbers to chemists who took advantage of the offer. It is a capital method of making known the quality of these goods, as chemists can now without cost conduct experiments to prove solubility and disintegration, and then by comparing prices get at the value.

MESSRS. HOWARDS & SONS inform us that they have entrusted to Mr. Edmund White, B.Sc., F.I.C., the management of that branch of their business dealing with the manufacture of fine chemicals, and carried on under the style of Messrs. Hopkin & Williams, at Cross Street, Hatton Garden, E.C., which until recently was under the management of the late Mr. H. C. Everson, F.I.C. Messrs. Hopkin & Williams have a newly built and equipped factory at Ilford, where the laboratories afford ample scope for research work in chemical technology and extension of business under Mr. White's direction. Mr. White was formerly a Bell scholar, acting afterwards as demonstrator in the chemical laboratories at Bloomsbury Square. For the last fourteen years he has been in charge of the Pharmaceutical Department at St. Thomas's Hospital, where he has carried out original work dealing with pharmaceutical chemistry, one of the latest contributions from his laboratory being the solution of the time-honoured kino-gelatinisation problem. Mr. White is also well known as joint author of "Pharmacopodia" and as the compiler of the last edition of the St. Thomas's Hospital Pharmacopodia. It will be remembered that at the recent British Pharmaceutical Conference at Bristol he was appointed one of the hon. General Secretaries to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. F. Ransom.

Marriages.

MILLS—GOSTLING.—On August 11, at the Congregational Church, Stowmarket, by the Rev. T. Simon. William Hobson Mills, Fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge, to Mildred May, second daughter of Mr. G. J. Gostling, J.P., chemist and druggist, Stowmarket.

WALKER—HEBSON.—At St. George's Church, Kendal, on August 12, Albert Storrs Walker, pharmaceutical chemist, of the firm of W. J. Lund & Co., chemists, Lancaster, to Margaret Dewar, daughter of Mr. Henry Hebson, of Castle Crescent, Kendal.

WHITE—CHAMBERS.—At St. Mary's Church, Tyndall's Park, Bristol, Percy Walter, second son of Mr. J. W. White (of Giles, Schacht & Co., pharmaceutical chemists, Clifton), to Ethelind Charlotte, second daughter of Mr. George Chambers, of Springfield, Cotham.

Deaths.

GILKES.—Suddenly, at 2 Banbury Road, Oxford, on August 17, Mr. William Henry Gilkes, chemist and druggist.

KINGZETT.—On August 15, suddenly, at Seascale, Cumberland, Adeline Kate Kingzett, the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Kingzett, of Elmstead Knoll, Chislehurst.

PARSON.—Suddenly, at Peas Hill, Cambridge, on August 18, Mr. Henry James Parson, pharmaceutical chemist, aged fifty-five. Mr. Parson was well known and respected in Cambridge for his sound business capacity and high integrity. He returned from St. Leonards on August 14, slightly ailing, but he was not regarded as seriously indisposed. On the following day he attended to business as usual, and his death was totally unexpected. He was a member of the committee of the Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association. In

religion he was a Wesleyan, and took a leading part in all matters pertaining to that denomination at Cambridge, and previously at Hull.

PROBST.—At 13 Oakdale Road, Streatham, Mr. Ernest Siordest Probst, of the firm of Messrs. I. A. Rucker & Bencraft, colonial brokers, 36 Mincing Lane, E.C., aged forty-two.

STROUD.—At Bristol, on August 10, Mr. John Stroud, pharmaceutical chemist, aged seventy-two.

Recent Wills.

BLUETT.—The will of the late Mr. William Reginald Bluett, chemist and druggist, 16 Alexandra Road, Wimbledon, who died on January 4, has been proved at the Principal Probate Registry by his executors, Mr. Reginald Bluett, 121 St. Albans Road, Watford, chemist and druggist, the son, and Mrs. Emma Hughes Bluett, 16 Alexandra Road, Wimbledon, the widow. The gross estate is valued at 1,371*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*, and the net personalty 1,318*l.* 9*s.* 8*d.*

BUSH.—The estate of Baron William Ernest de Bush, who was killed recently through falling from a train, is sworn at 25,762*l.* by his brothers, Richard A. Bush, James M. Bush, and Alfred Bush.

CHILD.—The will of the late Mr. Thomas Child, chemist and druggist, 4 Cardigan Place, Leeds, who died on December 30, 1902, has been proved at the Wakefield District Registry by Mrs. Mary Bertha Child, testator's widow and sole executrix. The gross value of the estate is 1,263*l.* 0*s.* 5*d.*, and the net personalty 972*l.* 8*s.* 5*d.*

FARNWORTH.—The will, bearing the date of February 25, 1901, has now been proved of Mr. Walter Farnworth, of Beechwood, Livesey, Blackburn, and of William Farnworth & Son, of 40 King William Street, Blackburn, pharmaceutical chemist, Mayor of Blackburn, who died from the result of a carriage-accident on April 16 last, aged thirty-eight years. The gross value of the estate is given at 48,417*l.* 5*s.* 4*d.*, including net personalty 37,684*l.* 13*s.* 7*d.*, and the executrix and executors of his will are his widow, Mrs. Emily Agnes Turner Farnworth, the Rev. Kenyon Rushton Hoyle, of The Vicarage, Fence, near Burnley, and Dr. John Lacey Frith, of Clifton, Bristol, to each of whom the testator bequeathed 500*l.*, and he bequeathed to the Blackburn Free Library and Museum for the Art Gallery such of his pictures as the managers may select. Mr. Farnworth left an annuity of 50*l.* to William Moulden, and he bequeathed to Mrs. Farnworth his household effects, horses, and carriages, and an annuity of 1,000*l.* during her widowhood, or, in the event of her remarriage, 300*l.* a year for the remainder of her life, and subject to her life interest, the residuary estate is to be in trust for the testator's children; but in the event of the death of all of the residuary legatees without leaving issue there are reversionary legacies of nearly 15,000*l.* to friends and relations, 2,000*l.* each to the Blackburn Ragged School and the Blackburn Orphanage, 5,000*l.* to the Blackburn District Nursing Association, and the ultimate residue, perhaps about 5,000*l.*, to the Blackburn and East Lancashire Infirmary.

NEVINS.—The will of Dr. John Birkbeck Nevins, who died at his residence, Prince's Avenue, Prince's Park, Liverpool, on June 11, has just been proved in the Liverpool Probate Registry by his sons and executors, Dr. John Ernest Nevins, of Prince's Avenue, and Victor Edgar Edmondson Nevins, solicitor, Lord Street, Liverpool. There are no public bequests, the whole of the real and personal estate being left for the benefit of testator's sons and daughter. The gross value of the estate is 12,171*l.* 15*s.* 1*d.*, and the net personalty 11,701*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*

VIRCHOW.—Administration of the personal estate in the United Kingdom, valued at 2,310*l.* 5*s.*, of Professor Rudolf Ludwig Karl Virchow, of the University at Berlin, a member of the Prussian House of Deputies since 1862, and of the Reichstag 1880-93, President of the Anthropological Society, a native of Schivelbein, Pomerania, who died on September 5, 1902, aged eighty-one years, has been granted to Mr. Charles Wigan, of Norfolk House, as attorney for the Professor's widow, Ferdinande Amalie Rosalie Virchow.

Trade-marks Applied For.

Objections to the registration of any of the undermentioned applications should be lodged with C. N. DALTON, Esq., C.B., Comptroller-General of Patents, Designs, and Trade-marks, at the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, Chancery Lane, London, W.C., within one month of the dates mentioned. The objection must be stated on Trade-marks Form J, cost £1, obtainable through any money-order office.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," July 8, 1903.)

Picture device with angel and the word "ANGELA"; for a medicine for anæmia. By Howard Green & Co., 15 Arundel Street, Strand, W.C. 251,714.

Portrait of elderly lady; for medicines. By H. Kay Lewis, 3 Newlands Street, Liverpool. 254,506.

"AMASIRA"; for chemicals. By Anna Locher, Stuttgart, c/o Cheesborough & Royston, 15 Water Street, Liverpool. 254,679.

"ROBWAL"; for chemical and pharmaceutical proprietaries. By O. Wallis & Co., 189 Wardour Street, Oxford Street, W. 254,721.

"VELVENE"; for chemicals. By F. W. Hampshire, 2 Wood Street, Derby. 254,972.

"TITLUMS"; for infants' food. By J. F. Mulholland, Kingston, Jamaica, c/o Tongue & Birkbeck, Birkbeck Bank Chambers, W.C. 254,585.

"OVALAC" ("Oval" disclaimed); for goods in Class 42. By Maltova (Limited), New Station Street, Leeds. 255,147.

"PHENOFAX"; for perfumery and toilet-articles, &c. By Henry Solomon Wellcome, trading as Enrroughs Wellcome & Co., Snow Hill Buildings, E.C. 255,075.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," July 15, 1903.)

"CEREBOS"; for chemicals, philosophical instruments, &c., glass, porcelain, and earthenware, engineering, &c., contrivances, paper, fermented liquors, mineral and aerated waters, perfumery and toilet articles. By Cerebos (Limited), Ellison Place, Newcastle-on-Tyne. 255,029 and 255,033.

Device and the word "IRIS"; for photographic plates. By O. Schülzig, Dashwood House, 9 New Broad Street, E.C. 253,671.

Oriental picture-device; for artificial colouring-matters and dyes in Classes 1 and 4. By the Basle Chemical-works, Basle, c/o Abel & Imray, Birkbeck Bank Chambers, W.C. 255,461 and 255,462.

"SUNNOL"; for prepared carbide of calcium. By C. Bingham, 47 Albert Gate, S.W. 251,237.

"IBIS"; for goods in Class 2. By I. Braithwaite & Son, Castle Street, Kendal. 254,430.

"ANMOFA"; for chemicals. By W. M. Nott, 8 Kensington Park Road, W. 255,407.

Portrait of Father Bordas and sketch of his church; for medicinal compounds. By E. P. Bordas, Houghton, Mich., c/o A. M. & W. Clark, 53 Chancery Lane, W.C. 253,522.

Picture of the Nelson Monument; for pills. By W. J. Keymer & Co., 66 Fenchurch Street, E.C. 253,830.

"GYPTICAN"; for chemicals. By the Geddes Manufacturing Company, 16 to 20 Farringdon Avenue, E.C. 253,887.

Device for "Montague's Universal Cure for Rheumatism." By Charles Montague, 14 County Chambers A, Martineau Street, Birmingham. 255,217.

"CYCLAX"; for face-lotions, &c., and for hair-preparations and perfumery, &c. By Fanny Forsythe, 14 Cotlands Road, Bournemouth. 255,013 and 255,044.

"WEE MACGREGOR" (device); for mineral and aerated waters. By R. Barr, Burnfoot, Falkirk. 253,209.

"ARCANUM"; for cordials, essences, syrups, &c., and for aerated drinks, mineral waters, &c. By the General Automatic Delivery Company (Limited), 94 Cannon Street, E.C. 254,691 and 254,692.

"COLLATIN" ("Colla" disclaimed); for photographic films. By the Dr. Riebensahn & Posselt Gesellschaft, Berlin, c/o Jensen & Son, 77 Chancery Lane, W.C. 254,999.

"CATATYPY"; for chemicals. By the Neue Photographische Gesellschaft Aktiengesellschaft, Steglitz, c/o Abel & Imray, Birkbeck Bank Chambers, W.C. 255,505.

Device; for disinfectants. By McDougall Brothers, 63 Port Street, Manchester. 253,095.

"GERMELINE" ("Germe" disclaimed); for disinfectants. By Sieber & Co., Lee Mill, Shavclough, Rochdale. 254,856.

Facsimile signature of applicant; for a specific for "Redwater" in cattle. By Alexander Gunn, V.S., Blair Villa, Beany, N.B. 254,576.

"EKTOGAN"; for oxygen-preparations. By Kirchoff & Neirath, Berlin, c/o W. Lloyd Wise, 45 Lincoln's Inn Fields, W.C. 253,071.

"CARLSBURGA" ("Carlsburg" disclaimed); for a mixture of artificial salts of Carlsbad and Homburg. By T. M. Davis, 241 Lewisham High Road, S.E., chemist and druggist. 253,366.

"CONSO"; for a medicine. By Mr. and Mrs. T. P. Baker, Olney House, Kettering, Thomas E. Maddocks, 32 Tennyson Road, Kettering, and Mary Agnes Myers, "Grantchester," Watford. 254,683.

"NOSTIQUE"; for a medicine. By L. J. Holland & Co., 103 Tollington Park, N. 254,693.

Device and the word "CALIFIG"; for chemicals. By the Californian Fig-syrup Company, 32 Snow Hill, E.C. 255,006.

"LITHVOL"; for chemicals. By the Chemische Fabrik vorm. Sandoz, Basel, c/o Newburn, Ellis & Pryor, 70 Chaucery Lane, W.C. 255,103.

"CLARINE"; for a lotion. By Eva Mary Doyle, trading as Madame Lynton, 4 York Mansions, Chichele Road, Criklewood, N.W. 255,341.

"VINOVA"; for food-stuffs. By Sutcliffe & Bingham (Limited), Cornbrook, Manchester. 252,475.

"LACTIVUM" ("Lac" disclaimed); for powdered milk. By Prideaux's Pure Casein and Life-food Company (Limited), Motcombe, Dorset. 254,839.

"STERALIS"; for goods in Class 44. By T. H. Larmuth, 2 Amies Street, Battersea, S.W. 255,521.

"PEAULINE" ("Peau" disclaimed); for a toilet-preparation. By T. M. Davis, 241 Lewisham High Road, S.E., chemist and druggist. 253,367.

Device and the word "LEMONA" ("Lemon" disclaimed); for a toilet-cream. By Lemona (Limited), 13 Bartlett's Buildings, Holborn Circus, E.C. 254,710.

"TREEK-à-TRIQUE"; for liquid and solid perfumes, perfumed powders and soaps. By W. F. Charles, Baxter Gate, Loughborough. 254,797.

"BLACK PRINCE" and "CARNAVAL"; for goods in Class 48. By Lever Brothers (Limited), Port Sunlight. 254,471 and 254,970.

"FLOATLET" ("Float" disclaimed); for soap, polishing-pastes, &c. By Vinolia Company (Limited), Malden Crescent, N.W. 251,951.

(From the "Trade-marks Journal," July 29, 1903.)

"SAVAMOR" ("Savo" disclaimed); for chemicals, soap, disinfecting soap, and polishing preparations and materials. By Fiske Brothers Refining Company, New York, U.S.A., c/o B. J. Wildbore, 38 Great Tower Street, E.C. 255,289, 255,290, 255,291, 255,292, 255,293, and 255,294.

"P.P." or "POLIPEL"; for photographic dry-plates, films, and other photographic goods and preparations. By J. T. Sandell, 44 Denmark Road, Woodside, S.E. 253,284.

"HERCULOID" boiler-fluid and map device; for a boiler-fluid. By Robert Bowran & Co., 3 St. Nicholas' Buildings, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. 255,024.

"FECULOSE"; for chemical substances. By W. Wotherspoon, Glenfield Starch-works, Paisley, N.B. 255,638.

"BEANSTALK" and picture of beanstalk; for a boiler-composition. By J. Beanland, 650 Wakefield Road, Bradford, Yorkshire. 255,552.

Device for chemicals. By the Chemical Union (Limited), Wharfedale Road, Ipswich, Suffolk. 254,907.

"STORNO" and device for phosphate-powder. By Storr & Co., Canal Wharf, Maidstone. 255,497.

"ALVOL" and facsimile signature of applicants; for an anæsthetic for dental and other purposes. By Anthony Dentists (Cardiff), Limited, St. Tydfil Chambers, 110 Queen Street, Cardiff. 255,157.

"BANDIT"; for chemicals and for perfumery. By J. Knight & Sons (Limited), Silvertown Soap-works, Victoria Docks, Essex. 255,740, 255,741, and 255,742.

"BIBEVO"; for articles in Class 3. By Thomas Kerfoot & Co., Bardsley Vale Mills, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs. 255,558.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects of general interest.

The Purity of Oil of Peppermint.

SIR,—We are pleased to note the valuable service you are rendering the trade by publishing information regarding the adulteration of oil of peppermint, which has reached such alarming proportions. Having been for over thirty years engaged in the cultivation and distillation of oil of peppermint, we naturally feel a deep interest in the protection of its quality, and have read with much interest the articles in your journal, and we desire to call attention to some interesting points thus brought to light, with some observations regarding tests for quality and the special value of the polariscope for detecting adulterations, which we trust may prove of value in checking adulteration.

Perhaps the most notable of these articles, on account of its astounding revelations regarding the extent of adulteration, was the report published in *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* by Mr. E. J. Parry, B.Sc., F.I.C., giving the analysis of ten samples of oil of peppermint, all of which had been offered in fulfilment of delivery of contracts requiring pure quality, none of which were pure. In this report Mr. Parry gives the sp. gr. and optical rotation of each sample, and calls special attention to the fact that all samples are insoluble both in 70-per-cent. and 90-per-cent. alcohol, and that all fail to deposit crystals of menthol. One feature of special interest to which we desire to call attention in Mr. Parry's series of tests, the importance of which may have escaped notice, is the close relationship of the sp. gr. to optical rotation, which will be seen to rise and fall relatively with each other, thus proving the correctness and value of the tests, as well as the fact that the chief adulterants used were dextro-gyra (polarising to the right, +°), while pure peppermint, as is well known, is strongly laevo-gyra (polarising to the left, -°). In this connection we will state that in our experience of over thirty years we have but very rarely found samples of pure oil of peppermint with an optical rotation less than -23° in a column of 100 millimetres (which is the length of the tube used in Mr. Parry's test), and it will be noticed that the very highest test of the series is but -14°. Regarding sp. gr., we have never seen any pure oil of peppermint grown in America, England, or the continent of Europe below 0.904°.

In the following table we have placed the samples in the order of rising sp. gr. that the relationship of polarisation may be more readily observed.

No.	Sp. gr.	Op. ro.
1	0.880°	- 9°
2	0.884°	- 5° 18'
3	0.884°	- 16° 20'
4	0.886°	- 11°
5	0.887°	- 11° 20'
6	0.839°	- 10° 31'
7	0.895°	- 11° 4'
8	0.896°	- 12°
9	0.902°	- 13° 6'
10	0.904°	- 14°

It will be noticed from the above that the first eight samples would be at once condemned from their extremely light sp. gr., which test alone is sufficient to prove extremely heavy adulteration. The adulteration of these eight shipments would accordingly appear to have been done by persons who had not served a long apprenticeship in this kind of fraud, and who evidently thought that the cheapest fluid which would mix with oil of peppermint was sufficient for the purpose. It would appear, however, that No. 9 and 10 were the work of experts, since they evidently used care to mix their adulterants with the view of "balancing" the sp. gr. We might mention here that it is the custom of

experts to use a small proportion each of a number of adulterants so that no single one should be unduly prominent by its odour or the ordinary physical and chemical tests; but here the value of the polariscope again is manifest, as the impurity of these two lots is instantly revealed. So far as we are aware, the adulterators appear to have no knowledge of the polariscope, or if they have they are unable to mix their adulterants in such a manner as to "balance" both the sp. gr. and the polarisation-tests. The adulterant which is most readily suggested by the tests in the above series of samples is light fractionated oil of camphor, which is the refuse of camphor and safrol factories, worth perhaps 5d. per lb., and having a sp. gr. ranging from 0.840 to 0.860, and being strongly dextro-gyra, giving an optical rotation generally within the limits of +20° to +30°. A very notable instance of the value of the polariscope in detecting "expert" adulteration was recently found when analysing the now famous brand bearing the label "WCOP (Wayne County Oil Peppermint), distilled and refined by Sylvester Vickery, Arcadia, Wayne County, N.Y." It will be remembered that upon learning the existence of this brand in London, and that it bore the marks of fraud, we secured samples for analysis, and made investigations through banks and other authorities, which proved that the oil was grossly adulterated, that no "Vickery" ever existed, and that the oil was mixed and branded by a prominent essential-oil house of New York City, who used this fictitious name and false location to hide their identity. They apparently attempted "expert" methods by "balancing" the sp. gr.; but the polariscope quickly revealed the adulteration, which was so great as to actually rotate the rays of polarised light to the right, giving a reading of +9° in one sample, while another sample showed a test of -2°. Mr. Parry's interesting analysis of a sample of this brand, published in the June 20 issue of your journal, gives an optical rotation of 3° 10'. It would seem from the variations in tests that they omitted to thoroughly "stir their tanks" after mixing.

After our publication of these facts, a New York house holding a quantity of this oil which had been returned from London, apparently with a view to quieting discussion, intimated their intentions to commence legal proceedings against us and a prominent American drug journal for publishing the facts. Very soon after Mr. Parry's analysis of the oil already referred to was published in your journal, and promptly re-published in a New York drug journal, which appears to have set at rest further attempts at intimidation. Mr. Parry expresses the opinion that the chief adulterant used is African "copaiba," and it is interesting to note that 85 000 lbs. of this article is said to have been imported by a New York essential-oil house. Meantime, manufacturing consumers who, deceived by the label, had bought the oil in good faith, finding their products ruined were obliged to sell their stocks of unused oil at about half the price paid, besides suffering heavy loss through damage to their goods and business; and the brand becoming unsaleable, purchasers who had been defrauded demanded reparation from the sellers, the result being that several thousand pounds has already been returned to New York. Whether it will again be offered under a new fictitious label is a question of interest. Since oil of peppermint is used very largely in the manufacture of fine pharmaceuticals and confectionery, the sale of which largely depends upon their flavour and taste, the checking of adulteration will largely increase the demand for such products, protecting at the same time legitimate producers and consumers, as well as the public.

Yours very truly,

A. M. TODD COMPANY (LIMITED),
Kalamazoo, Mich., July 31. A. M. TODD, Chairman.

The Howard James Case.

SIR,—In a letter contained in your issue of August 15, page 342, Mr. James admits that he was instructed not to sell poisons at the temporary branch of ours in Walsall, at which he was placed. He, however, denies that he was instructed not to stock poisons. We are able to prove the contrary. Unfortunately, depending upon Mr. Howard James's capacity and willingness to manage the branch according to our desires, no instructions were given to the wholesale house as to what they were to supply and what they were not to supply to the shop in question. Mr. James took upon himself to order drugs containing poisons,

with the result as seen. It would have been perfectly easy for him to refer any customer desiring to buy anything of a poisonous nature to our adjacent shop, which is only a few steps away, and where we have a qualified manager, the only one empowered to sell poisons for us in Walsall. Mr. Howard James was taken over with the business and with a good record. We had no need to avail ourselves of his services, and any connection (at which he seems to hint) was of no use to us, as we bought the business only to get the premises. The business there was comparatively insignificant, and worthless for our purposes. The long term of service Mr. James speaks of was not spent in our service, and with us he could not hope for a manager's position at a permanent branch unless he qualified. Without any agreement or inducement to do so we kept him on. He had a very comfortable situation with us. He was getting a salary far above what we pay to any other unqualified man at any of our branches, and equal to that of a qualified man. We have hitherto been precluded from extending any help or sympathy to him by the very fact that in doing so we should be stultifying ourselves, and inducing a feeling that we were accessories to his action, which we certainly were not. The tone of his letter is certainly not one calculated to commend his case for further consideration on our part. We note that Mr. James had had the management of the shop at Walsall for over nineteen years before we acquired it, and, presumably as manager, was responsible for the sale of poisons there. We tried to teach him better, as far as we were concerned, but seem to have failed.

Yours faithfully,

FOR BOOTS CASH CHEMISTS (WESTERN) LIMITED,
JESSE BOOT,

August 19. Managing Director.

SIR,—I think chemists should subscribe to help Mr. Howard James in paying the heavy fines and costs incurred by him in the recent Pharmacy Act prosecution at Walsall. In spite of Mr. Jesse Boot's letter I am of opinion that this assistant has been very hardly treated. The case illustrates the risk and hardship borne by the unqualified assistant, whilst the limited company who receive the profits escape scot-free. The law on this point should certainly be amended. I personally know Mr. James's statement is correct as to the length of time he was previously employed in the same shop, that a good deal of business followed him when he entered Boots' employment, that he has a large family, and that his health is now precarious. Under these circumstances I think this a case deserving of assistance, and have sent a small donation to Mr. James's address as given in the *C. & D.* last week. I hope other chemists will follow my example.

Yours truly,

CHEMICUS. (125/25.)

Mr. Tocher's Scheme.

SIR,—I entirely fail to see where "Xrayser's" respect comes in for "those who think for us" in comparing their efforts to "the dropping of moss-covered old buckets into empty wells, and growing old in drawing nothing up." I trust the craft generally is more appreciative of Mr. Tocher's mighty labour—to take one of the schemes. Regarding whether anyone desperately desires this scheme, it would be interesting to know the views of chemists in the Yorkshire, South Midland, North Midland, Wales, and Scottish northern districts, now that the vague ideas, for long afloat, that the present method of representation fell far short of what it might be, are established. Perhaps London and Lancashire, as well as the other districts, are fairly well satisfied. If I understand the report of the Federation meeting rightly, Mr. Tocher was attracted to the subject, not with the idea of making a mathematical display, but with the idea of having pharmaceutical representation upon the best possible basis, and by the probabilities which would result from the adaptation of his scheme; and if he has not pressed its advantages (leaving the scheme apparently to stand or fall by its merits), it is obviously the duty of those who consider this a better and juster plan for the election of pharmaceutical councillors to say so, and to force it home by every means in their power. It would be interesting to know, in face of the facts which Mr. Tocher has laid bare, by what process of reasoning "Xrayser" lays down the slender statement that the proposed alteration can hardly be justified unless certain things (which do not appear to be

of much importance) are "conclusively shown." It might be possible to "conclusively show," even as matters exist, the proof "Xrayser" has decided upon; but I suggest that a probably easy way to discover wherein the needs of chemists in proposed districts are "distinct and distinguishable," would be to get candidates with, say, different and definite programmes and policies to "stump" the various constituencies—the successful to now and then render an account of their stewardship, thereby getting in closer touch with the electorate, who might be able to assist their "designs" in the Council, or, if necessary, assist them out of it altogether.

Yours faithfully,

Kennna, August 17.

ALEXANDER S. WEIR.

SIR,—We all relish, and often profit by, "Xrayser's" perennial and piquant philosophising on current events. But even Homer nodded, and "Xrayser's" radiations are sometimes erratic and anything rather than irradiating. I certainly think that he is reactionary, if not positively obscurantist, in his depreciatory and even deprecatory remarks on Mr. Tocher's and other schemes for reform in pharmaceutical politics and economics which have been made public recently. I am not concerned to defend all the projects which "Xrayser" somewhat invidiously tabulates, although I conceive that they ought to be welcomed as promising signs of renewed cultivation of subjects that have been too long lying fallow, even if they are on the margin of cultivation. But I am constrained to protest against "Xrayser's" cavalier dismissal of Mr. Tocher's scheme. It may be true that nobody "desperately desires" territorial representation, but, for that matter, what chemist "desperately desires" anything save to be snatched from the clutches of the Inland Revenue octopus or the fangs of the store ogre? Assuming, however, that the indifference is as crass as "Xrayser" affirms it to be, I should adduce it as a proof of the sinister influence of the prevailing system of representation, than which it would be impossible to imagine one better fitted to beget political pocrontism. The crowning advantage claimed for that system—viz., that it ensures the return of well-known and representative men—is rendered a minus quantity by (1) the discontinuity and disproportionateness of representation, and (2) the discouragement to change of representatives. Under the former head, a demonstration of the inequitableness and absurdity of the existing method is found in the fact that by the mere arbitrary arbitrament of the poll districts are disfranchised from time to time, and that, owing to the unequal distribution of voters, some areas are greatly over-represented, while there is correlative under-representation elsewhere. There is absolutely no remedy for such anomalies apart from territorial distribution. The most malignant mischief of all arises from the inability of voters to make an intelligent selection from a list of candidates, most of whose names are too familiar, while some are too obscure, to them. The inevitable result is that votes are concentrated on the "old gang," which, with the best intentions in the world, tends to grow into non-progressive habits, and to perpetuate a policy that is traditional rather than opportunist. Hence the stock charges of lethargy and effeteism so often levelled at the Council. Here, again, the only hope of improvement lies in improved methods of representation and an increased membership. In the pharmaceutical as in the parliamentary representative system what is imperative as a pre-requisite for real reform is a thorough overhauling of the whole electoral machine.

Yours, &c.,

Glasgow, August 18.

J. P. GILMOUR.

The Minor in Canada.

SIR,—May I be allowed to point out an inaccuracy in your remarks on the recognition of the home qualifications in Canada? I have just had some correspondence with the Ontario College of Pharmacy, and the Registrar-Treasurer says that the Council will require a re-examination under their own auspices, but will accept proof of apprenticeship in England, &c., required by their own curriculum. The President has informed me that they are not disposed to reciprocity in this matter with the British Society because the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain positively refuses to recognise Ontario certificates. It would be unfortunate if a chemist emigrated to Canada with the impression that his Minor certificate would save him from

further examination. It is a pity that owing to paltry differences it is necessary to go to the expense, time, and trouble of re-graduating when one possesses already such a valuable asset as the Minor certificate.

Sincerely yours,
H. (223/58)

Legal Queries.

Consult "The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary," 1903, before formulating Queries.

111/27. *Mineral Waters*.—Aerated-water bottles branded with the name of a particular maker are *prima facie* the property of that maker, unless it can be proved that he has sold them. If, therefore, you have purchased such bottles without making due inquiry as to whether or not the person who sold them to you was lawfully possessed of them, you hold them on your own responsibility. If, on the other hand, they are now undoubtedly your property, you need not sell them to the original owner at less than the market-price.

111/68. *Gold Paint*.—If you are to contest the case in court get each of the persons who, according to your last letter, are aggrieved to give evidence on your behalf. Be quite sure of your facts before you go into court, and as you are not at all likely to win without a solicitor, instruct a local one to act for you.

103/63. *G. M. D.*—Money lent on "I.O.U." to a person who becomes bankrupt ranks with other claims for dividend.

104/1. *Ingleby*.—The agreement not to start business within a certain radius is enforceable. The fact that it was signed by the assistant after he had been some time in the place makes it all the more binding upon him.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months.

76/3. *Hedera*.—Ivy-gum is obtained by making incisions in the stem of the common ivy, *Hedera Helix*. It is reddish-brown in colour, and burns with an aromatic odour. It is sometimes used for rubbing on bait to render it attractive to fish.

78/37. *Tweed*.—Waterproofing Cloth.—The usual process consists in dipping the cloth in a solution of lead acetate ($\frac{1}{2}$ lb. in 8 gals. water), and afterwards in a solution of a sulphate—sodium sulphate (1 lb. in 8 gals. water), for instance. Some of the processes follow the sulphate with a weak solution of glue or isinglass with the idea of preventing the lead sulphate being readily shaken out of the cloth.

93/24. *W. G. L.* (Heidelberg. Transvaal).—The following is the formula for *Tinctura Warburgii* (syn. tr. anti-periodica):

Aloes socotrinae	...	...	...	lb. j.
Rad. rhei	...	...	...	3iv.
Sem. angelicae	...	...	...	3iv.
Confect. damocratis	...	...	...	3iv.
Rad. inulae	...	...	...	3ij.
Croci sativi	...	...	...	3ij.
Sem. foeniculi	...	...	...	3ij.
Cretae preparatae	...	...	...	3ij.
Rad. gentianae	...	...	...	3j.
Rad. zedoariae	...	...	...	3j.
Piper. cubebae	...	...	...	3j.
Myrrhae electae	...	...	...	3j.
Camphorae	...	...	...	3j.
Boleti laricis	...	...	...	3j.
Spt. tenuioris	...	...	...	Oxxx.

Digest for twelve hours in water-bath, strain, and add quinine sulphatis 3x., continuing the heat until the quinine sulphate dissolves. Cool and filter.

Dose: 5j. to 3ss.

86/71. *Inquirer*.—(1) Liquid Court-plaster.—Solution of velvrl in acetone (sold by Thos. Christy & Co.) is an

excellent preparation to sell for painting on minor cuts and abrasions. The surface should be dry before painting on the velvrl, and a second coating should be given when the first has dried. The result is an elastic film, which washing will not remove. (2) The *Plastic Skin-cream* has a base of white vaselin. There is also present a little spermaceti and white wax, which have been added to give a firmer consistency.

103/18. *Dumfries*.—There are apparently different kinds of alum blocks used by barbers after shaving. One variety is compressed alum ustum, and another is sawn out of large crystals of alum. The "bloc hyalin," on the other hand, appears to be a solid form of glycerin and boric acid.

106/23. *J. H.*—Hair-dye.—You had better increase the quantity of pyrogallol in the formula, and recommend your customer to sponge the hair with weak ammonia previously to applying the dye.

106/18. *Annan*.—Bleaching Cow-hair.—Well wash, soak in a weak acid bath, pass through a wringing-machine and into a solution of bleach. Finally wash or repeat if the proper effect is not obtained at first.

78/61. *J. E. J.*—Mucin forms the chief constituent of the ground substance of connective tissue, the other organic constituent being a globulin very like serum globulin. Mucin is the chief constituent of mucus, and gives the sliminess to the secretion of mucous membranes. It is especially abundant in the jelly-like tissue of the umbilical cord and in the vitreous humour. The methods of preparation depend on the fact that mucin is soluble in weak alkalies (lime-water or dilute baryta-water), and can be precipitated from the solution by acetic acid. But each variety of mucin requires a different method of extraction.

104/23 *H. J. S.*—Situation in Paris.—The Coloured Supplement of the *C. & D.* is the recognised medium for assistants' advertisements. The leading pharmacists on the Continent of Europe subscribe to this journal.

7/33. *J. R. S.*—McKenzie's Insufflation-powder.—The following is given in the "Art of Dispensing":

Bismuth. subnit.	...	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{4}$
Pulv. catechu	...	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{12}$
Morphinae hydrochlor.	...	...	...	gr. $\frac{1}{16}$

Et. pulvis.

To be mixed with a spatula on paper. One powder is used for an insufflation

100/65. *H. W. C.*—Paris Green—aceto-arsenate of copper—is obtainable from wholesale drug-houses. The other insecticide we are inquiring about.

94/49. *Salol*.—We cannot undertake to report on the purity of the sample of turpentine you send.

74/68. *E. P.*—Amylic alcohol is known as "potato oil" or "potato drops," but you should ascertain what it is to be used for and judge if suitable.

81/5. *Booco*.—Freezing-salt:

(1)

Ammonium chloride	...	...	5 parts
Potassium nitrate	...	...	5 parts

To be added to 16 parts of water.

(2)

Ammonium nitrate	...	...	5 parts
Sodium carbonate	...	...	5 parts

To be added to 5 parts of water.

85/50. *Retab*.—Glycerinium Heroinæ.—See *C. & D.*, January 30, 1903, page 213.

Information Wanted.

124/12. English agent for Dr. Kaufman's sulphur-bitters.

117/5. Can any correspondent suggest the origin and meaning of the coloured carbonyls in chemists' windows?

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: August 20.

THERE is no perceptible improvement in business to report, but with the near approach of autumn hopes are entertained in some quarters that a better tone will prevail. The chief event in the "Lane" this week has been the unexpected extinction of an old-established firm of drug-brokers, who have been in business for over forty years. The slight spurt in the quinine-market towards the end of last week was shortlived, as practically no business has since been done. Shellac has also quieted down considerably, and prices in the future market are, on the whole, lower. In drugs, cantharides is tending higher owing to scarcity, and there has been a fair demand for chamomiles. Lime-juice is flat and easier owing to arrivals; and, among other West Indian products, pimento has advanced owing to the cyclone in Jamaica. This disaster does not, however, appear to have affected beeswax or honey, the markets for both these articles being momentarily well supplied. More attention has been paid to Chinese essential oils of star aniseed and cassia, the former being slightly dearer. In chemicals, sulphur continues very scarce on the spot, and again higher prices have been paid. Sulphate of copper is rather easier, and citric and tartaric acids are quiet. At the spice-auction; on Wednesday the bulk of the small supplies offered was bought in. The following are the principal changes of the week, including those which took place at the auctions of "new and old" drugs to-day:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Aloes (Cape)	Aniseed	Buchu	Areca
Cantharides	(Russ.)	Copper sulphate	Balsam tolu
Oil, aniseed, star	Cardamom-seed	Dragon's blood	Menthol
Oil, palm	Chamomiles	Lime-juice	Oil, pepper-mint (HGH)
Pimento	Jalap	Oil, cassia	Pepper
Senna (Tiny.)	Oil, cassia	Wax, bees' (Jamaica)	
Sticklac			
Sulphur			

Californian Honey.

According to advices from California published in the *New York Commercial*, the honey-crop is light this year. Conservative estimates say it will not go over 125 cars, and some put it as low as 100 cars. The result of this has been to force up prices, and never before has the price at this season of the year been so high as it is now. The production is expected to average about one-third of the usual yield, and the bulk of it will come from Ventura County. The price of light amber honey on July 21 was 5½c. Last year many producers sold for 3½c. Aside from the shortage an association has been formed called the Californian National Honey Producers' Association, which controls most of the output in Southern California. One trouble with the honey-market has been that for years the apiarist has become pressed for money and has sold at a low figure, when by waiting a little longer he might have obtained twice as much. The Association has an arrangement by which it advances up to a certain figure to weak holders, enabling them to realise full prices later. Reports from forty-three members of the Association say they have 4,000 cases. The average amount of extracted honey per producer is found to be 5 tons. Colorado is expected to have a

fair crop. The Central States have suffered from drought, floods, and other disturbances which have decreased the yield. Elsewhere conditions have been more or less unfavourable, indicating a reduced output in all sections of the country. Even the West Indian output does not promise as well as usual. British houses have been cabling to California for car-lots, offering 4½c., but found that all holders asked 5c. or more. The Association's latest circular quotes the following prices delivered at terminal points: Extracted light 5½c., light amber 5½c., amber 4½c., comb, white 1½c., No. 1 12c., No. 2 10c., and light amber 10c. per lb.

Heavy Chemicals.

The general condition of the heavy-chemical market remains practically unchanged from that notified in recent reports. For the season of the year home trade demand is a good one, whilst the requirements for export are satisfactory, at any rate, as regards quantities. Values for both main and miscellaneous products are mostly steady at late rates, there being very little fluctuation.

ALKALI PRODUCE.—Bleaching powder is in rather better demand than of late, although in reality still rather quiet. Caustic soda also shows an improved demand, whilst soda crystals, ammonia alkali, and salt-cake may be described as brisk.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA keeps very quiet at nominally about the same figures as last mentioned.

BENZOLS are in improved request at 8¾d. to 9d. per gal. for 90 per cent. and 7d. per gal. for 50 per cent. Aniline oil and salt are quiet at 5d. to 5½d. per lb. and 4¾d. to 4½d. per lb. respectively.

BICHROMATES OF POTASH AND SODA continue to move briskly at late low rates; tendency towards advancement, however, still continues. Bichromates of potash, English and Scotch deliveries, 3d. per lb., less 4 per cent. Glasgow; for export, 2¾d. per lb. net, f.o.b. Glasgow. Bichromates of soda, English and Scotch deliveries, 2¾d. per lb., less 4 per cent. Glasgow; for export, 2d. per lb. net, f.o.b. Glasgow.

MAGNESIUM SALTS show no change from recent position, and are in average consmptive demand. Chloride of magnesium, 62s. 6d. to 67s. 6d. per ton; magnesium sulphate (Epsom's), 62s. 6d. to 65s. per ton; carbonate of magnesium, 37s. 6d. to 40s. per cwt.

Liverpool Drug-market.

Liverpool, August 19.

Business still continues very quiet.

CASTOR OIL continues firmer. Nothing offering under 2¼d. for shipment up to the end of the year. First-pressure French is still held at late rates.

COD-LIVER OIL.—In spite of large arrivals of Newfoundland, prices keep up at the late quotations of 12s. to 13s. per gal. for non-freezing. Sellers of congealable are expecting better prices.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—Owing to the small inquiry, sellers are willing to accept 83s., f.o.b. Bordeaux. Reports to hand indicate higher prices are likely before long.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—Further sales have taken place at 1s. 6¼d. per lb. for Maranhão.

CARNAUBA WAX.—Slightly firmer at 70s. to 72s. 6d. for grey, 92s. 6d. having been paid for yellow.

CASCARA SAGRADA is in good demand, 50s. having been realised for new. For old bark as high as 60s. has been paid, and some sellers ask 65s.

GUINEA GRAINS.—Sales have taken place at 37s. 6d. There is only a limited supply on the spot.

WAX, BEES'.—In auction 22 blocks Sierra Leone sold at from 67. 10s. to 67. 15s. per cwt., and 8 bags Chilian and Peruvian at from 71. 7s. 6d. to 71. 15s.

CANARY-SEED.—Business has been done in Turkish at 45s., spot, and there is little more to be had at this price. Barbary is quoted 45s. to 50s. per 46½ lbs., according to quality.

GINGER.—Some 375 bags of Sierra Leone have changed hands at 25s. per cwt. in store.

HONEY.—Californian is firm, and 35s. per cwt. has been refused, owing to reports of the failure of the new crop. Holders ask 37s. Of Chilian 450 barrels, chiefly Pile 2 and 3, have been sold at 18s. 6d. per cwt. for the latter, and on private terms for the former.

CALABAR BEANS.—Five bags were sold at auction from the quay at 6½d. per lb.

German Drug-market.

Hamburg, August 18.

Business in general is quiet, but the drug-trade shows a little more animation.

ANISEED is tending firmer at 31m. per 100 kilos.

BALSAM PERU is dull of sale at 8½m. per kilo.

CAMPHOR.—Refined is unchanged, first hands asking 435m. per 100 kilos.

CONDURANGO shows a stronger market; to day's quotation is 75m. per 100 kilos.

CITRIC ACID is dull, and some very low prices have been accepted.

CANTHARIDES is firmer, and there seems to be a short crop; 575m. per 100 kilos. is asked.

CORIANDER-SEED is firm at 21m. per 100 kilos.

IPECACUANHA is quiet, Rio being quoted 11m. and Cartagena 9½m. per kilo.

LYCOPODIUM is very scarce and firm, 495m. per 100 kilos. being asked for cases.

MENTHOL for spot delivery is very scarce, while forward is cheaper at 40m. per kilo.

QUININE is quoted 32m. per kilo.

SENEGA is very strong, 725m. per 100 kilos. being asked.

WAX.—Japanese is firm on the spot at 135m. per 100 kilos.

OILS (FIXED).—Castor is quiet; first pressing in barrels for September–December delivery is quoted 32½m. per 100 kilos. Cod-liver is firm at 475m. per barrel for non-congealing oil.

OILS (ESSENTIAL).—Peppermint (HGH) is quoted 11½m. per lb., and Japanese 16m. per kilo.; star-anise oil is quoted 9½m. per kilo.

Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, August 20:—Golden-seal root is dearer at 550m. per 100 kilos. Citric acid is dull of sale, and Japanese wax is firmly held.

NEW YORK, August 20:—The markets are quiet. Opium has an easier tendency at \$3.40 per lb. for single cases. Quinine is slow of sale at 24c. per oz. Senega is advancing, 80c. per lb. now being asked for Western root. Peppermint oil remains easy at \$2.45 per lb. in bulk. Menthol is quiet at \$6.25 per lb., and golden-seal is firm at 56c., while ipecacuanha rules easy at \$1.20 per lb.

ACID, CITRIC, is flat, at 1s. 0¾d. per lb.

CANTHARIDES.—Extreme prices are now asked for the new Russian crop—viz., 3s. 6d. per lb., c.i.f. In another direction 2s. 7d., c.i.f., is quoted for what is said to be new crop.

CASCARA SAGRADA.—The spot price has advanced to 60s., which figure has been paid; and to arrive per sailer 47s. 6d. per cwt., c.i.f., has also been paid since our last report. At auction to-day 60 bags of good bright bark, catalogued as 1899 crop, were offered and sold at 58s. per cwt., being steady.

CHAMOMILES are tending higher, 62s. 6d. being quoted for good white first pickings Belgian flowers, and 50s. and upwards for fair.

CINCHONA.—The auction to be held at Amsterdam on September 3 will consist of 10,410 bales and 489 cases, weighing altogether 950,856 kilos. The stock in first hands in Amsterdam on August 13 consisted of 2,988 packages Government and 12,798 packages private bark, including the quantity to be offered at the above auction.

COCOA-BUTTER.—The auctions to be held at Amsterdam on September 1 will consist of 65 tons Van Houten's, 22 tons De Jong, 8 tons Mercuurstaaft, and 8 tons Mignon; while on the same date in London 50 tons of Cadbury's brand will be offered.

COPPER SULPHATE is rather lower, at 18l. per ton on the spot and 19l. 15s. for Anchor brand.

GALLS.—Small sales of Persian blue have been made at from 52s. 6d. to 54s. on the spot. A large part of the stock is held off the market for higher prices.

HOPS.—The present is a critical time for the hop crop, and so far the weather has been anything but favourable for the plants. In spite of the adverse conditions, however, early hops are making fair progress. It is said that owing to the frequent rains growers are unable to supply sulphur to the plants, and there is consequently great fear of mould. Stocks are said to be short, and the few hops of last year's and older growths offering are being absorbed at hardening values.

LIME-JUICE is flat and rather easier, good raw West Indian being quoted at 1s. 3d. per gal. nominally.

LIQUORICE-ROOT.—Last year 700 tons were shipped from Alicante, and it practically all went to the United States.

LYCOPODIUM is hardening, 2s. 2¾d. being quoted on the spot for double sifted.

OIL, ANISEED, STAR.—Sales have been effected at 4s. 1d., spot, being 1d. per lb. dearer.

OIL, CASSIA.—Business has been done in 80 to 85 per cent. c.a. at 2s. 11d., spot, and holders are now asking 3s. for this grade. In auction 20 cases (81 to 82 per cent) sold without reserve at from 2s. 9d. to 2s. 10d. per lb.

OIL, CITRONELLA.—Spot prices for ordinary Ceylon are steady at 9½d. per lb. for drums and 10½d. for cases. For August–October shipment sales have been made at 8¾d., c.i.f., for drums.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on August 15 that the market is unaltered and very quiet at the nominal prices of from 450s. to 480s. per barrel, f.o.b., for finest non-congealing cod-liver oil. The exports from Bergen up to date amount to 1,519 barrels, against 5,556 barrels at the corresponding period of last year. A private advice from Bergen, dated August 12, solicits orders at from 430s. to 435s. per barrel, f.o.r. Hull, but the brand is not of the best. On the spot one of the well-known brands is obtainable at 460s., but there is next to no business doing. The opinion with regard to the immediate future of the market—i.e., when the autumn demand sets in—is conflicting. It is quite possible that holders in Norway will want to realise when they see a reasonable prospect of so doing, in which case they would probably accept lower prices. In addition to this, Newfoundland oil is supplying requirements to a certain extent, and deliveries of parcels contracted for have been satisfactorily effected. There is now little Newfoundland to be bad, one of the principal refiners having sold his output. On the spot up to 350s. per barrel has been paid for non-freezing.

OPIMUM.—The London market is very firm, but there is little doing. Owners of Persian have advanced their price to 10s. 6d. for spot or to arrive. In Turkey business has been done up to 9s. 9d. for Smyrna druggists'.

SMYRNA, August 7.—This has been a quiet week, sales amounting to 43 cases, including 20 cases new current t.q. at 2s. 7d., 5 cases new current Karahissar at 9s. 10d., 5 cases new choice Karahissar t.q. at 10s., 4 cases new current Yerli t.q. at 10s., 2 cases new Bogaditz t.q. at 10s. 6d., and 7 cases old Karahissar t.q. at 10s. 1d. per lb., c.i.f. Eleven of the above were for speculation, and the remainder for exportation. The arrivals of new opium in Smyrna now amount to 620 cases, against 2,270 cases at the corresponding period of last year. The market closes quiet and unchanged.

QUININE.—After the slight spurt towards the end of last week, when some 50,000 oz. was sold, the market relapsed again into its former lethargic condition, and no business of importance has been done, there being sellers at 11¼d., spot, for second-hand German sulphate in bulk, but on Wednesday 11½d. was accepted for a few thousand ounces.

SAFFRON.—Private advices from Spain quote the equivalent of from 32s. to 35s., which prices are much above those ruling here.

SEEDS.—Russian *Anise* is tending dearer owing to bad crop-reports; the quotation is given as 16s., c.i.f. terms. *Canary* unchanged at 48s. per quarter on the spot, and 35s. c.i.f. terms, for new crop Turkish. *Coriander* quiet at 11s. per cwt. *Cumin* unchanged at 18s. to 22s. per cwt. for Morocco according to quality, and at 24s. to 27s. 6d. for fair to fine Malta. *Caraways* steady at 21s. 6d. per cwt. *Linseed* sells readily at the present low prices—38s. to 42s. per quarter for good to fine bold.

SHELLAC.—After the excitement and rapid advance of last week the market has naturally quieted down, and less business has been done at fluctuating prices. On Friday last there was a good demand for spot parcels at full prices, fair TN Orange selling at 157s. to 160s., and AC Garnet at 127s. 6d. to 130s. for cakey to slightly matted. For arrival prices closed lower, TN, for October–December shipment, selling at 151s. to 148s., c.i.f., and subsequently offering at 147s. in this position, without finding buyers. The future market also closed weak, 157s. being the value in most positions. On Monday prices opened lower for arrival, TN selling at 145s. to 146s., c.i.f., for October–December shipment, and in "futures" about 1,000 cases TN changed hands at a decline of 2s. 6d., the sales including December delivery at 156s. 6d. to 155s., January at 155s., and March at 150s., and since then prices have ruled steady—August selling at 154s.,

September 155s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ l., December 155s., and January 155s., these being the prices paid for about 1,000 cases on Wednesday.

SOY.—Further sales are reported at from 1s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. to 1s. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. per gal.

SPICES.—At auction on Wednesday there was only a small demand, and the bulk of the offerings were bought in. Of Cochín *Ginger* 166 bags were offered, and 35 sold at 32s. for small and medium washed rough. Good bold Penang *Cloves* were bought in at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. Privately Zanzibar closed firmly on Wednesday with sales of October-December and January-March shipment at 4 $\frac{7}{32}$ d. Zanzibar stems sold in auction at 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for 10 bales. *Pimento* is dearer owing to the cyclone in Jamaica, and good sales have been made from 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. per lb. for fair. *Tamarinds* at auction sold at from 6s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. to 7s. for Antigua. *Pepper* was lower, 140 bags of Tellicherry selling at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. for good. Singapore was bought in at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for fair, and at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for small grey Penang. Privately fair Singapore has been sold at 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., being cheaper. Of *White Singapore pepper* 101 bags offered, and 15 sold, without reserve, at 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d.; privately the market has been quiet with sellers of fair Singapore on the spot at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d., and fair Penang at 9 $\frac{3}{16}$ d. per lb. *Mace*, *Chillies* and *Capsicums* were all bought in; and of *Nutmegs* 25 barrels were offered, and 12 sold.

STICKLAC is dearer, fair sifted Siam being quoted 100s. on the spot.

SULPHUR.—The spot scarcity continues, and is likely to for several weeks. Up to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. per ton has been paid for small quantities of foreign flowers.

TRAGACANTH remains very firm, and fair quantities of the lower and medium grades have been dealt in. It is said the demand for the low qualities is no doubt being caused by the outturn of common and dark-colour prints in the cotton trade; but as the low grades are nearly exhausted, buyers will be forced to fall back upon the better grades, which are in fair supply. Druggists' firsts are rather neglected at from 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. to 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. 10s. per cwt.; seconds, 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. 10s. to 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. 10s.; thirds, 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. to 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ l.; and fourths, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. 15s. to 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. 10s.

WAX, JAPANESE.—Vegetable is firm at 67s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. spot, and for August-September shipment 66s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ l., c.i.f., is quoted.

London Drug-auctions.

TO-DAY'S auctions, which consisted of new and old drugs, were rather lengthy. They passed off quietly, a large proportion of the goods offered being bought in. Cape aloes again sold at higher prices and Curaçao sold cheaply. Areca was in large supply and partly sold at a decline. Balsam tolu was rather easier, and the same may be said of buchu, although quality was indifferent. The stocks of Sumatra benzoin are accumulating and prices are in buyers' favour. Cardamoms sold irregularly but at about steady prices, although seeds showed a firmer tendency. Dragon's blood, under the influence of larger offerings, sold at rather under valuations. Jamaica honey showed no material change and Rio ipecacuanha was neglected. Cartagena was perhaps a shade easier, and holders privately are still firm. Johore was steady, selling at the previous auction prices. Jalap was rather firmer. Menthol was about 1s. 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. lower compared with the previous auction prices, and American HGH oil of peppermint was from 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. cheaper. Rhubarb was quiet as usual, and sarsaparilla sold steadily at previous prices. The quality of Tinnevelly senna offered was rather better, and prices showed an advance of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb. Wax of all descriptions had an easier tendency owing to the abundant supplies. The following table shows the amount of goods offered and sold:

	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold
Aconite (Jap.)	14	0	Benzoin—		
Albumen	25	0	Palembang	20	7
Aloe—			Penang	4	0
Cape	19	19	Siam	7	0
Curaçao (boxes)	32	32	Sumatra	281	47
Socotrine	30	0	Buchu	33	3
Zanzibar	10	10	Calumba	51	9
Ambergris	8	1	Canella alba	14	0
Ammoniacum	7	0	Cannabis indica	10	0
Aniseed (star)	1	0	Cardamoms	237	128
Antimony (Jap. cr.)	30	0	Cascara sagrada	60	60
Areca	281	107	Cinchona	11	0
Argol (Cape)	9	9	Coca-leaves—		
Balsam—			Ceylon	5	0
Copaiba	13	0	Truxillo	5	5
Peru	15	0	Colocynth	15	2
Tolu	51	2	Croton-seed	12	0

	Offered	Sold		Offered	Sold
Cubebs	102	1	Oil—		
Cumin-seed	9	0	rose E.I.)	14	0
Cuttle-fish bone	44	0	sassafras	10	0
Dragon's-blood	39	6	wintergreen	1	0
Elemi	20	0	Orange-peel	16	0
Ergot	11	5	Orris—		
Gamboge	14	0	Florentine	20	0
Guaiacum	2	0	Mogidor	10	10
Gum acacia	153	1	Quillaia	25	0
Gum chicle	1	0	Rhubarb	56	6
Honey—			Sarsaparilla—		
Californian	30	0	grey Jamaica	36	17
Jamaica	125	116	Guayaquil	8	0
New Zealand	215	9	Lima Jamaica	22	6
Ipecacuanha—			native Jam.	1	1
Cartagena	5	3	Sassafras chips (tons)	2	0
East Indian	16	8	Scammony-root	34	34
Rio (natural)	33	14	Senega	5	0
" ("cult.")	7	0	Senna—		
Jalap	17	17	Alexandrian	16	0
Kamala	1	0	Tinnevelly	116	111
Kiao	4	0	Squills	12	0
Kola	11	5	Strophanthus	30	0
Lime-juice	37	0	Tamarinds—		
Mag. carb. (Amer.)	19	19	W.I.	46	0
Menthol	7	5	Ceylon	19	0
Musk—			Tonga-root	2	0
Cabardine	2	0	Tonka-beans	10	0
grain (bot.)	1	1	Turmeric	447	133
Tonguin pod	2	0	Turtle (dried)	1	0
seed	3	0	Wax (bees')—		
Mutton-bird oil	2	0	Anstralian	25	0
Myrrh	49	0	Chilian	2	0
Oil—			East Indian	199	0
cassia	20	20	Jamaica	45	20
castor (E.I.)	14	0	Madagascar	100	17
cedarwood	4	4	Morocco	36	0
cinnamon	5	0	Mozambique	3	0
eucalyptus	26	4	Rangoon	24	0
lemongrass	27	0	Spanish (yellow)	22	0
lime (W.I.)	7	0	(bleached)	8	0
nutmeg	5	0	Zanzibar	400	50
peppermint	79	43			

ALOE.—Cape aloes is still scarce, the offerings to-day comprising 19 cases only, with an absence of fine bright hard quality. There was keen competition for them, and the better grades were 2s. dearer, while secondary quality was lower, compared with the last public sales. For fair to good hard bright, part slightly drossy, 61s. to 63s. was paid, and 51s. to 58s. for dullish seconds, part softish, and 31s. for mixed livery and dull. The balance of a parcel of Zanzibar aloes was offered without reserve, and sold at 20s. for common black watery in partially empty tins. Of Curaçao aloes, 32 packages were offered and sold, comprising good black capey at from 22s. to 23s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ l., good livery at 20s., livery and capey mixed at 18s., and dull livery at 14s. per cwt. Good paste Socotrine, in kegs, was limited at 72s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. per cwt.

AMBERGRIS.—A tin of black undeveloped with fair flavour sold at 27s. per oz.

ANTIMONY.—Japanese crude was limited at 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. per ton.

ARECA.—Stocks have accumulated, and in consequence lower prices were accepted to-day, 9s. per cwt. being accepted for several parcels of dullish to fair, part slightly wormy seed.

ARGOL.—Good grey from the Cape sold at 60s., medium at 55s., and pinky at 47s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. per cwt.

BALSAM COPAIBA.—Good filtered Para and Marañham were offered, without finding buyers, at 1s. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb.

BALSAM TOLU was rather easier, a few cases of reddish balsam, with peculiar flavour, selling at 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per lb., in small tins.

BENZONIN.—There was a fair demand for Sumatra, and prices were generally in buyers' favour, owing to increased supplies. Good fair almondy seconds, slightly false packed, sold at from 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. 10s. to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. 15s., fair seconds at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. 15s., and common false packed seconds at 9s. to 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ s. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ l. per cwt. Palembang, in small tins, brought 35s. to 38s., and for Penang 85s. was wanted. Seven cases Siam were shown, but no bids were made.

BUCHU.—The s.s. *Portia* from Hamburg has arrived with 50 bags. At auction the quality offered was indifferent. Rather stalky and yellowish round leaf sold at 9*d.* per lb., and fair greenish at 10*d.* per lb.

CALUMBA.—Very wormy and slightly yellowish sorts sold at 8*s.*, and for rough and stemmy yellowish 15*s.* was wanted.

CANNABIS INDICA.—For inferior and stalky tops 3*s.* 3*d.* per lb. was wanted.

CARDAMOMS sold at irregular but fairly steady prices, the tendency of seed being firmer. There has been a large arrival this week, but the packages are small, and the consignments come to two firms only. The following prices were paid in auction:—Ceylon-Mysore: extra bold pale, well bleached, 2*s.* to 2*s.* 2*d.* per lb.; good bold pale, 1*s.* 8*d.* to 1*s.* 9*d.*; bold medium pale, 1*s.* 3*d.* to 1*s.* 5*d.*; small and medium pale, 1*s.* to 1*s.* 1*d.*; brown and split, 9*d.* to 9½*d.*; small pale, 9*d.* to 10*d.*; peas, 9*d.* per lb. *Decorticated seed* sold at from 1*s.* 1*d.* to 1*s.* 2*d.* per lb. Tellicherry and Man-garos were bought in.

COCA-LEAVES.—Fair Truxillo sold at 10½*d.* per lb., being steady.

COLOCYNTH.—Two cases of slightly brownish and very broken Turkey apple from Larnaca (Cyprus) sold at 1*s.* 2*d.* per lb. Fair small to medium palish apple was held at 1*s.* 6*d.*

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—With further arrivals stocks are accumulating. In auction, a case of fair bright lump, part reboiled and part seedy, sold at 8*l.* 10*s.*, being rather under the valuations, and another case of damp at 8*l.* 5*s.* Very dull lump (three cases) sold at from 6*l.* to 6*l.* 5*s.* *Reed* was obtainable at 9*l.* per cwt., and Zanzibar drop at 50*s.*

The exports from Singapore to Great Britain during the first six months of the year were as follows, the figures representing piculs:—1903, 195; 1902, 109; 1901, 50; 1900, 107; 1899, 130; and 1898, 40 piculs.

ELEMI.—Fair pale Manila is obtainable at 65*s.*

ERGOT.—Two bags of wormy Spanish sold at 1*s.* per lb. Sound was held at 1*s.* 2*d.*, and three other bags had been sold privately.

GAMBOGE.—For a parcel of 12 cases unsorted Siam pipe partly blocky and run, but mostly good orange fracture, 18*l.* was wanted. The shipments from Singapore for the first six months of the year were as follows:

	Great Britain	U.S.A.
	Piculs	Piculs
1903	72	152
1902	77	103
1901	13	64
1900	50	64
1899	178	85
1898	83	95

HONEY.—Only a small proportion of the new arrivals of Jamaica were offered to-day, and the consequence was the catalogues were cleared at steady prices. Seven barrels fair liquid amber Jamaica sold at 20*s.*, and rather dark ditto at 18*s.* The principal offerings consisted of 95 packages, which were all sold, including fair bright amber liquid, in barrels, at 21*s.* to 21*s.* 6*d.*, and rather darker ditto at from 18*s.* to 20*s.* 6*d.* Nice pale bright liquid amber was limited at 25*s.* Nine cases of New Zealand sold at 27*s.* 6*d.* for pale yellowish.

IPECACUANHA.—The supplies of Rio ipecacuanha are now accumulating, consequently there was little inducement for buyers to purchase. The importers of natural Rio were firm at 4*s.* 9*d.* per lb., and 1 bale only was disposed of at this price. A dozen bales of sea-damaged, part badly, sold "with all faults" at from 3*s.* 6*d.* up to 4*s.*, according to damage. Cultivated Rio was also neglected at 4*s.* 9*d.* per lb. Cartagena was perhaps rather easier, earthy and greyish selling at 3*s.* 10*d.*; privately holders are firm at the prices quoted last week. Of Johore ipecacuanha 16 packages were offered, and more than half were sold publicly, after some hesitation, at 4*s.* 9*d.* for fair to bold native-picked root, and sea-damaged with mouldy centres at 4*s.* 7*d.* per lb.

JALAP sold at rather firmer prices, 4½*d.* per lb. being paid for small to bold fair sound Vera Cruz, against 4*d.* paid at the previous auction.

KOLA.—Four barrels fair natural West Indian sold at 5½*d.* and fresh at 2½*d.* per lb.

MAGNESIA CARBONATE.—American make, "without reserve," in 2-oz. and 4-oz. blocks, sold at 14*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.

MENTHOL.—Several odd cases of Kobayashi crystals were again offered without reserve, and sold at from 20*s.* 9*d.* to 21*s.* per lb., or 1*s.* 3*d.* lower than was paid at the auctions a fortnight ago. Previous to the auction Kobayashi was quoted at 22*s.* on the spot, and to arrive at 15*s.* 6*d.* per lb. c.i.f.

MUSK.—A bottle of rather wet Nepaul-grain musk sold cheaply at 28*s.* per oz. For small to medium thin-skinned blue and brown Tonquin pod 65*s.* was wanted, and for Cabardine 16*s.* 6*d.* per oz.

OIL, CINNAMON.—Genuine bark oil was limited at 1*s.* 3*d.* per oz.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS.—Commercial Australian sold "without reserve" at 7½*d.* per lb.

OIL, LEMONGRASS, was quiet, with sellers at 6*d.* per oz.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—Further moderate quantities were again offered without reserve, and included 20 cases American HGH, which were knocked down to an American importer at from 10*s.* 6*d.* to 10*s.* 9*d.*, which was 9*d.* under the price paid at the previous auction. Twenty cases of Japanese dementholised oil (Kobayashi) also sold, without reserve, at 4*s.* 9*d.*, being 9*d.* lower than the price paid at the previous auction. Privately the market has been inactive, with sellers of Japanese dementholised at 5*s.* 6*d.*, spot, and American HGH at 11*s.* 3*d.*, spot.

ORANGE-PEEL.—Fair bright Tripoli strip is quoted at 5*d.* per lb., at which sales are reported.

ORRIS.—Brown Mogador sold at 10*s.* per cwt.

RHUBARB.—Quiet. Of Shensi, 2 cases of good heavy bold round, with three-quarters pinky fracture, sold at 1*s.* 9*d.*, and bold flat ditto, with pale, pinky fracture, at 1*s.* 10*d.* A case of round flat small to medium Canton pickings sold at 8*d.*, and small to bold flat High-dried, with three-quarters pinky fracture, was limited at 9*d.* per lb. Several small lots had been sold privately. It is said that the new crop of Shensi is too poor in quality to pay for shipment.

SARSAPARILLA.—Grey Jamaica sold at steady prices, 1*s.* 2*d.* being paid for fair sound and 1*s.* for coarse and damaged. Sound Lima-Jamaica was limited at 1*s.*, and sea-damaged sold at 8½*d.* Guayaquil (8 bales) were limited at 1*s.* 1*d.*, at which sales are reported privately. Only one bale of Native red was offered, and 1*s.* 1*d.* was paid for it.

SENEGAL.—From New York it is said to be difficult to get offers from the dealers in the North-West, but whether the crop is large or small cannot be said yet.

SENNA.—An improvement in the quality of the Tinnevely leaf was noted to-day, and with smaller offerings values again rose fully ½*d.* per lb., competition being active. The following prices were paid: Tinnevely, bold greenish, part broken leaf, 5*d.* to 5½*d.* per lb.; fair medium to good greenish, 3*d.* to 4½*d.*; and small greenish, rather specky leaf, 2*d.* to 2½*d.* per lb. *Pods* sold at from 1½*d.* to 1¾*d.* Fair Alexandrian leaf was limited at 4*d.*, siftings at 2*d.*, and pale pods at 6½*d.* per lb.

TONKA BEANS.—Good black Para were limited at 1*s.* 5½*d.* per lb.

TURNERIC.—A string of 266 bags fresh water damaged Madras sold without reserve at from 4*s.* to 9*s.*, according to damage.

WAX, BEES.—The offerings of all description were unusually large to-day and met with little demand, prices tending easier generally. Fair brown Madagascar block was limited at 7*l.* 10*s.*, and for wormy and very dark 6*l.* 10*s.* per cwt. was paid. Even brown Zanzibar sold at 6*l.* 15*s.* to 6*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, and partly drossy at 6*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.* Jamaica wax was 2*s.* 6*d.* easier, selling at from 7*l.* 10*s.* to 7*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.*, according to quality. About 200 packages of East Indian were bought in.

American Pharmaceutical Association.

THE annual Convention was this year held at Mackinac Island, Michigan, situated in the Straits of Mackinac where the waters of Lake Michigan and Lake Huron meet. The session was opened on Monday afternoon, August 3, at the Grand Hotel, by the President, Dr. George F. Payne, of



DR. GEO. F. PAYNE

Atlanta, Ga. The attendance was not so large as it was last year, when the Association celebrated its jubilee, but the papers and discussions are quite up to the average.

The President's address was mainly a review of the work of the past year. The need of a uniform poison law was mentioned. It was suggested that an appendix to the National Formulary, which would give recipes for household remedies, should be published. The project for the establishment of a journal of the Association has not advanced, the replies received from

the officers of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain being non-committal or negative in character. Reference was made to the patent laws of the United States, which were spoken of as faulty, and also to the necessity for tax-reduced alcohol in pharmacy.

After other routine business the session adjourned.

The next day, August 4, was taken up with the reports of the committees. The membership, one report mentioned, has increased from 1,111 to 1,469 during the year.

The committee who were entrusted with the consideration of the advisability of establishing a

NATIONAL BUREAU OF FOODS AND DRUGS

reported approving of the scheme and submitting a plan for carrying on the Bureau. Dr. Rusby gave the following outline of the scheme:

The Bureau is to be under the control of a Board of Directors elected jointly by the American Pharmaceutical Association and the American Medical Association. A manufacturer submits to the Bureau a sample of each lot of goods manufactured which he may wish to have endorsed by the Bureau. This sample being certified, the manufacturer is permitted to label that particular batch as having been approved by the Bureau, and to pay to the Bureau a certain percentage (a fraction of 1 per cent. probably) of the value of the goods certified to. The Bureau proposes to take up only those more important drugs and preparations in which it is possible to establish accurate standards of value.

Dr. Philip Mills Jones next spoke of the legal aspects of the Bureau, as it had been planned, and also of the attitude of the medical profession to the Bureau. He had found the physician, without exception, pleased with the plans of the Bureau.

By the resolutions which followed it was decided to report to the Council for final action, but when the Council considered the matter they decided not to take action.

The Procter Memorial Fund, which now stands at a little over \$16,781, is to be increased to \$25,000 before any of the interest is applied. Professor J. P. Remington, who presented the report, recommended an active canvass to be made to increase the fund.

PHARMACY AT THE CARNEGIE INSTITUTION.

Mr. Caswell A. Mayo, New York, the Chairman of the Committee of the Carnegie Institution, stated that on consultation with the authorities of the institution he found they preferred to have the proposal of the A. Ph. A. submitted

in writing rather than in a personal interview. In deference to this expressed wish an address was prepared and submitted, and as a result the committee had been informed that for the present the trustees of the Carnegie Institution deemed it inexpedient to establish an advisory committee on pharmaceutical research. The committee recommended that the application be renewed at some later date.

A STANDARD SERUM.

Amongst the other matters brought forward was a resolution that it is in the interest of American pharmacy to have a standard for antitoxin, and the U.S. Public Health and Marine Hospital Services were requested to establish and maintain such a standard.

The Commercial Section of the Association, which met in the afternoon, were given an interesting address by the Chairman of the Section, Mr. T. V. Wooten.

TRADE MATTERS.

Mr. Wooten referred to the scarcity of chemists' assistants, due to the demand for capable young men in the various mercantile and manufacturing pursuits, now entering upon a career of unparalleled prosperity. The greatest hindrance to the success of pharmacy is, he thought, caused by the excessive number of pharmacies. There were in the United States 38,730 "stores" (this only includes the shops that are devoted solely to pharmacy), or one to every 1,967 of population. He considered that many of the proprietors of small businesses would be better paid and enjoy more freedom as assistants. The growth of sentiment in favour of making commercial training a part of the curriculum of schools of pharmacy Mr. Wooten regarded as most gratifying. Steps should be taken to make assistants more satisfied with their situations; hours should be shortened and living accommodation improved. There is no reason, also, why employees in pharmacies should not be remunerated on the basis of their individual sales—a profit-sharing which would be for the benefit of both pharmacist and assistant. It was suggested that the volume of business done in a "store" should be sufficient to enable the proprietor to employ a salesman or saleswoman to vend the commercial articles, the skilled pharmacist to be employed solely with professional work. Much might be done to increase business by keeping in touch with physicians, and getting them to order National Formulary preparations in place of proprietary goods. Cutting prices is a ruinous method of increasing a business. Mr. Wooten concluded by recommending organisation as the means of curing the commercial and professional ills with which pharmacy is afflicted.

Resolutions embodying the suggestions as to shorter hours and commercial training were passed and referred to the general session for adoption.

The papers in this section included one by Mr. R. B. Gable on "The Show-window Placard." The placard was spoken of as a neglected medium for the increase of trade, and the author gave details of the style of lettering to be used for the cards.

Mr. W. H. Burke, Detroit, in a paper on "Pharmaceutical Progress," pointed out that the consumption of proprietary medicines had been abnormally stimulated, with the result that the number of drug-stores had increased to such an extent as to cut down the profits by competition through cut prices.

The scientific papers were read on Wednesday, Mr. J. O. Schlotterbeck, of Detroit, delivering the opening address, which dealt with the similarity in constitution and physiological action of atropine and hyoscyamine. It was suggested that the two alkaloids might be used indifferently one for the other, the question of which one to use being only a matter of dosage, which was always regulated by the physician.

THE EBERT PRIZE

was awarded to Dr. F. B. Power, London, for his paper on "The Chemistry of the Stem of *Derris uliginosa*, or Eastern Fish-poison" (*C. & D.*, September 27, 1902, page 555).

Mr. E. H. Gane read the report of the Drug-market Committee. The committee interviewed the drug-appraisers of

Boston, New York, and Philadelphia, and were assured that the knowledge of the strictness of inspection prevented the attempt to enter very inferior drugs. In 1902 one lot of rhubarb and one case of chemicals were rejected at the port of New York. Recently forty cases of asafetida, rejected at United States ports, were offered for sale in the London market. The report went on to refer to the mixtures of oils offered as cod-liver oil, and to the difficulty in detecting some of the substitutes. In this connection Mr. Gane read a paper on

COD-LIVER OIL AND ITS ADULTERANTS,

in which he reviewed the accepted cod-liver-oil constants, and gave a table of results obtained from the examination of cod-liver-oil samples. For the benefit of the retail pharmacist who has not the time to make elaborate tests the following three simple tests were given as being sufficient to enable a chemist to judge of the quality of a sample of oil:

1. Place $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of the oil in a test-tube and allow to stand in shaved ice for two hours. A pure non-freezing oil should remain perfectly clear.

2. Boil 1 fl. dr. of the oil with $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of a 5-per-cent. solution of caustic potash in alcohol until the solution is clear. Dilute with 2 oz. of water and heat until the alcohol is expelled. Then add an excess of hydrochloric acid and note the odour of the fatty acids. A strong herring-like odour or a bad-smelling liquid indicates adulteration with seal or other oils. A faint herring odour may be disregarded. Pure cod-liver oil usually yields a soap and fatty acids of a fishy smell, with no bad odour.

3. Place 20 drops of the oil on a watch-glass and add 5 drops of strong nitric acid. Stir well and note the colour. Pure cod-liver oil gives a beautiful rose-red colour which changes in about half an hour to lemon yellow. A dirty brown or blackish mixture indicates adulteration with other oils.

In the discussion on this paper it was pointed out that the medicinal value of the cod-liver oil substitutes was probably equal to that of cod-liver oil.

Mr. Lyman F. Keble, chief of the New Drug Laboratory at Washington, presented a paper on "The Sophistication of Drugs." Mr. Keble showed that geranium oil is not what it should be, and that a judicious mixer has the chemist at a decided disadvantage. Speaking of the adulteration of phenacetin, he compared the constitutions of phenacetin and acetanilid with a view to showing how difficult it is to detect the latter in the former by chemical means.

PHENACETIN TEST.

A subsequent paper by Mr. G. M. Beringer may be mentioned here, as it gave the following new test for phenacetin:

Boil $\frac{1}{10}$ gram phenacetin one minute with 3 c.c. of 50-per-cent. sodium-hydrate solution; cool, agitate with 5 c.c. chlorinated-soda solution. If the product is pure a clear yellow liquid will result, while a purple-red or brownish-red cloudy liquid or precipitate indicates the presence of acetanilid. This, together with the determination of the melting-point and the application of Hirschsohn's bromine-water test, affords ample protection.

The necessity for

STANDARD METHODS OF ANALYSIS

was urged by Professor Coblenz (in a committee report), who gave some glaring examples of the divergent assays of the same drug by experienced chemists, which made it apparent that any process of assay adopted by the Pharmacopœia should be given in complete detail and hedged about by all proper precautions without assuming too much knowledge on the part of the purchaser of the volume.

We now give abstracts of the most interesting of the other papers read before the various Sections of the Association.

JABORANDI.

Professor H. H. Rusby, in a paper on "The Pilocarpus-leaves of Commerce," pointed out that about 90 per cent. of the leaf sent out by wholesale houses was spurious. Manufacturers buying on assay were, however, protected. He urged the abandonment of the term "jaborandi," which was a generic name used by the natives for a variety of drugs. He described minutely two varieties which are to be recognised in the forthcoming U.S. Pharmacopœia—*Jaborandi microphyllus* and *Pilocarpus Jaborandi*. The drug now official will be discarded.

AN ACACIA SUBSTITUTE.

A paper on "The Mesquite-tree" of Texas, read by Mr. E. G. Berle, mentioned that the gum of this tree is a likely

substitute for acacia. The gum occurs in tears, and resembles gum acacia in many ways, its sp. gr., solubility, and behaviour to nitric acid being nearly identical; but its aqueous solution is not precipitated by lead subacetate, ferric salts, or borax. The gum is evidently of value, and but for the cost of collection would be a formidable competitor of acacia.

INACCURATE SIEVES.

Mr. Raymond Pond, from accurate measurement of the brass and tinned-iron sieves on the market, finds them all more or less faulty, consequently the fineness of the powders produced by such sieves is not exactly as represented.

Mr. E. H. Gane, Ph.C., read a paper on

BENZIN,

in which he referred to the complaints made by chemists that it is difficult, if not impossible, to obtain petroleum ether of a fairly constant boiling-point. An investigation of numerous samples from various sources has shown that not only is the complaint justified, but that it is impossible to procure a product that will distil between any narrow limits of temperature. The reason for this is easy to see when the nature of the product is considered. The liquid now sold as petroleum ether is generally the fraction of the light petroleum distillate taken from the stills at 60° to 65° or 70° C. Some makers supply a product labelled as boiling at from 50° to 60° C., according to the U.S.P. requirements. The specific gravity of a number of samples which have come under observation has ranged from 0.648 to 0.687. The hydrocarbons found in American petroleum readily undergo, upon heating, the change known technically as "cracking"—that is to say, they are changed either by dissociation or polymerisation into bodies of different boiling-point. So marked a feature is this of American petroleum that the "cracking" of heavy hydrocarbon oils for the production of lighter fluids is a well-known detail in the manufacture of petroleum products. Just what causes the change is not well understood, but it can be readily observed to take place when portions of condensed liquid drop back upon the hot fluid in the retorts. Mr. Gane then described some distillation experiments to prove that dissociation is the true explanation of the difficulty in obtaining petroleum ether boiling within narrow limits.

Mr. Otto Raubenheimer read a paper on

SAFETY BENZIN,

recommending for sale as a grease-remover a mixture of 1 volume of benzin and 2 volumes of carbon tetrachloride. The paper was discussed by several members, including Mr. Mayo, of New York, who spoke of the growing use of carbon tetrachloride in Europe as a safe solvent for technical purposes.

Mr. Herman J. Lolmann (Jersey City) read a paper on

RESIN OF PODOPHYLLIN,

the résumé of the paper being as follows: "Inasmuch as resin of podophyllum is not found in the fresh drug, developing apparently by reaction among the constituents of the drug during seasoning of two years, and that the drug collected before blossoming produces the greatest yield, it would be well for the U.S.P. to specify these conditions in connection with podophyllum. Furthermore, that the yellowish-green or greenish-yellow resin of podophyllum does not comply with the tests prescribed, and the light-brown resin does comply with the tests; that the descriptive terms 'yellowish-green or greenish-yellow' be eliminated from the U.S.P. It is only fair to state that an aluminium salt is a part of the resin which offers resistance to the solvents. Beware of yellow resin of podophyllum."

A paper of dispensing interest was on

THE INCOMPATIBILITIES OF SYNTHETIC REMEDIES.

By Mr. Edsel A. Ruddimann, Nashville, Tenn.

Agurin is readily soluble in water, not very readily in cold alcohol, but more so in hot alcohol. The solution is strongly alkaline to litmus. Adding hydrochloric acid to an aqueous solution of agurin does not give a precipitate at once. A dilute aqueous solution gives a bluish-white, gelatinous precipitate with silver nitrate, which is soluble in ammonia-water, but not in alcohol; the silver is not reduced on standing for several hours. With copper sulphate it gives a blue precipitate. Tartar emetic

with considerable agurin gives a white precipitate. Lead acetate and cadmium chloride give precipitates. With mercuric chloride, magnesium sulphate, barium chloride, or platinum chloride it does not give a precipitate at once, but does on standing. Ferric chloride with excess of agurin gives a red-brown precipitate. Excess of tincture of iodine causes little or no precipitation at once, but if the agurin is in excess the iodine is decolourised and a yellowish, gelatinous mass or thick liquid results, which slowly becomes thin again and deposits a white precipitate. Carbon dioxide produces a white precipitate. An aqueous solution of agurin darkens calomel at once. It reduces potassium permanganate to some extent. It is not readily precipitated by Mayer's reagent. It precipitates solutions of many alkaloidal salts. Many of these precipitations are due to the alkalinity of the compound, and can be prevented by first neutralising the alkalinity. Rubbed with chloral hydrate, carbolic acid, or piperazin, it gives a solid.

Alumnol is readily soluble in water, but sparingly soluble in alcohol. The solution is decidedly acid to litmus. Adding ammonia to an aqueous solution gives a white precipitate which dissolves in excess of ammonia, giving a blue fluorescence. Potassium hydrate acts like ammonia. Ammonium carbonate or sodium carbonate gives a white precipitate. With ferric chloride alumnol gives a deep blue colour. It does not cause precipitates with lead acetate, silver nitrate, mercuric chloride, barium chloride, potassium mercuric iodide, or tincture of iodine. It precipitates albumin, the precipitate being soluble in excess of albumin.

Ammonol is a white powder, part of which is soluble in cold water and part insoluble, soluble in hot water, not entirely soluble in alcohol even on boiling. It is alkaline to litmus, and when the bottle is freshly opened it has the odour of ammonia. If it is shaken with water and then filtered, the filtrate precipitates solutions of lead acetate, barium chloride, copper sulphate, silver nitrate, alum, ferric chloride, the precipitates being soluble on adding acids. This filtrate gives the odour of ammonia when heated with potassium or sodium hydroxide. Acids cause an effervescence. It probably contains ammonium carbonate. Most of the precipitations are due to the alkalinity, and can be overcome by neutralisation. When it is rubbed dry with resorcin, thymol, carbolic acid, or chloral hydrate it gives a solid mass or a liquid.

Diuretin is readily soluble in water. It is not readily soluble in cold alcohol, but is more so in boiling alcohol. It is strongly alkaline to litmus. The addition of acids to an aqueous solution causes a precipitation, probably of both theobromine and salicylic acid. Even carbon dioxide will give a precipitate. When a solution of diuretin is added to a solution of copper sulphate a green solution results if the copper is in excess, but a green precipitate if the diuretin is in excess. Silver nitrate gives a white gelatinous precipitate which is soluble in ammonium hydroxide. Calomel is darkened at once by a solution of diuretin. Mercuric chloride slowly gives a white precipitate. Diuretin gives a violet colour with a tincture or solution of ferric chloride if the iron is in excess, but a red if the diuretin is in excess; the iron is not precipitated in either case. It precipitates solutions of alum and lead acetate. Ammonium carbonate, sodium phosphate, or borax slowly gives a precipitate with solutions of diuretin, but ammonium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, or Mayer's reagent causes no apparent change. Tincture of iodine is decolourised at first, but added in excess it gives a precipitate. Diuretin precipitates aqueous solutions of alkaloidal salts. When diuretin is triturated dry with chloral hydrate or carbolic acid it gives a soft mass.

Europhen is insoluble in water, soluble in alcohol, glycerin, and fixed oils. Heat and light tend to liberate iodine, particularly in solution. The solution in oil is of doubtful efficiency, since the iodine slowly liberated combines with the oil. It is not advisable to prescribe it with metallic oxides or salts that have a strong affinity for iodine.

Heroin is sparingly soluble in water, soluble in alcohol, chloroform, benzene, less readily soluble in ether, and still less in amyl alcohol. Mixed with water it gives an alkaline reaction to litmus. It combines with acids to form soluble compounds. It behaves very much like an alkaloid. Heroin hydrochloride is very soluble in water, and is the salt most commonly used. Alkaline hydrates or salts precipitate it from aqueous solution, but the neutral or acid salts do not generally do so. Tincture of iodine or an aqueous solution of iodine with potassium iodide gives a brown precipitate. Potassium mercuric iodide gives a white precipitate. Dilute solutions of heroin hydrochloride with mercuric chloride do not give precipitates, but an excess of concentrated solution of mercuric chloride gives a white precipitate. From not too dilute solutions it is precipitated by chlorides of gold and platinum. Heroin lessens the fluorescence which quinine gives with dilute sulphuric acid. It interferes with the dichromate test for strychnine when it is present in considerable proportion. Heroin hydrochloride and also the free heroin reduce potassium permanganate. Nitric acid gives a faint yellow which changes to green on standing, more quickly if warmed.

Ichthyol is miscible with water or glycerin, precipitated by strong alcohol, neutral or slightly acid to litmus. It is precipi-

tated by ferric chloride, ferrous sulphate, lead acetate, copper sulphate, alum, zinc sulphate, barium chloride, calcium chloride, magnesium sulphate; probably as sulphochthyolates of the metals. From dilute solution it is not precipitated by mercuric chloride, tartar emetic, potassium iodide, or sodium phosphate. Ammonium chloride, ammonium carbonate, and sodium carbonate give turbidities. Acids combine with the ammonium, precipitating the ichthyosulphonic acid. Silver nitrate slowly gives a precipitate. Ichthyol is decomposed by alkali hydrates or carbonates, liberating ammonia. It precipitates alkaloids from solutions of their salts, forming sticky masses.

Phenocoll Hydrochloride is soluble in water. From not too dilute aqueous solution it is slowly precipitated by ammonia, ammonium carbonate, and sodium carbonate; the precipitate may come down in flat crystals which refract light, but generally on standing the precipitate becomes brownish and amorphous. Mercuric chloride slowly gives a little white precipitate. Solution of ferric chloride gives a brownish-red precipitate, which becomes brownish yellow on standing; the precipitate is soluble in alcohol. Tincture of ferric chloride gives a deep-red solution, which gets brownish green in a few minutes, and some bubbles of gas are given off. Silver nitrate does not give a precipitate at once, but is reduced and deposited on the sides of the vessel in a few minutes. Gold chloride gives a dark brown precipitate at once, which gets nearly black; platinum chloride slowly a green precipitate. Tincture of iodine in excess gives a brown precipitate, which redissolves in excess of phenocoll, and the iodine is decolourised. Piperazine sometimes gives a precipitate, probably due to the alkalinity of the piperazine.

Piperazine is hygroscopic, soluble in water and alcohol, quite strongly alkaline to litmus. In aqueous solution it gives a brown precipitate with ferric chloride, a green one with ferrous sulphate, a white or nearly white with stannous chloride, mercuric chloride, tartar emetic, gold chloride, barium chloride, or potassium mercuric chloride. Silver nitrate and platinum chloride give no precipitates. Tannic acid gives a white precipitate, which dissolves in excess of piperazine, giving a purplish colour; adding more acid gives a permanent precipitate, but still more acid dissolves it with but little colour other than that which the acid alone gives; if the solutions are dilute, precipitation may not result, but there is a change of colour. Piperazine precipitates many alkaloids from solutions of their salts. Many of the precipitates mentioned above are due to the alkalinity, and will not occur if the piperazine is first neutralised. Tincture of iodine gives a nearly white precipitate. Potassium permanganate is reduced. It forms a liquid or mass when it is triturated with acetanilid, antipyrin, phenol, chloral hydrate, or phenacetin.

Protargol is soluble in water, almost insoluble in alcohol, slightly alkaline to litmus. In aqueous solution it gives precipitates with lead acetate, zinc sulphate, silver nitrate, alum, ferric chloride, mercuric chloride, dilute hydrochloric acid, dilute acetic acid, or quinine bisulphate. It does not give a precipitate with Mayer's reagent. It decolourises potassium permanganate. It gives no precipitate with sodium or ammonium chloride or albumin.

Salophen is nearly insoluble in hot or cold water, somewhat soluble in alcohol, or ether, or chloroform. The alcoholic solution gives a violet colour with tincture of ferric chloride if the salophen is in excess, but if the iron is in excess a red-brown colour is produced; if the solution of salophen is previously heated and then mixed with the iron, it gives a violet at once. Salophen is said to be decomposed by the alkaline fluids of the intestines. Potassium hydrate aids its solution in water, probably decomposing it.

NUX VOMICA ASSAY.

By Mr. W. A. Puckner (Chicago).

This is a modification of the method of Keller, and experiments show that the aliquot-part method gives correct results with nux vomica, apparently through a compensation of errors; that an hour's maceration and subsequent percolation may well be substituted; and that alcohol should here be added to the light chloroform-ether mixture usually used in the Keller method, since its addition facilitates the extraction of the alkaloids, and also prevents the formation of emulsions in subsequent steps of the determination. Here are details of one of the processes:

To 5 grams powdered drug were added 40 c.c. ether, 10 c.c. chloroform, 2 c.c. ammonia-water, and the mixture shaken occasionally one hour. It was then transferred to a small percolator, the percolate received in a separator; when the menstruum had all passed through, the drug was packed down and exhausted with a further 50 c.c. of the chloroform-ether. The chloroform ether solution of the alkaloids was next extracted with 10, 10, and 10 c.c. normal sulphuric acid.

To the acid extractions a drop of cochineal test-solution was added, then an excess of ammonia water, and then the alkaloid abstracted with 10, 10, 10 c.c. chloroform. After the evaporation

of the chloroform, the alkaloidal residue was titrated with decinormal acid, cochineal being used as an indicator. In these determinations chloroform extractions took much time, while shaking with chloroform did not produce a condition which could be called an emulsion; yet each time an hour or more often elapsed before the chloroform would separate completely and could be drawn off. In four determinations the alkaloidal residue so obtained required 3.31, 3.49, 3.41, and 3.49 c.c. of the decinormal acid.

In choosing this or similar procedure when extracting nuxvomica, it should be borne in mind that in the aliquot-part method care must be exercised to add the exact volume of the ether-chloroform-alcohol-ammonia-water mixture, and later to avoid all evaporation when obtaining the aliquot part.

PERSONAL NAME SYNONYMS.

This paper, by Mr. M. I. Wilbert, of the German Hospital, Philadelphia, gave some biographical details in connection with the personal names that appear as synonyms to galenical preparations in the U.S. Pharmacopœia. Most of these being familiar in this country, we give an abstract of the paper.

Basham's Mixture.—This well-known ferruginous tonic diuretic mixture was originated by William Richard Basham who was born in 1804 in Diss, Norfolk, England. Basham was first intended for a mercantile career, and began as a clerk in a banking business; later he studied chemistry with a view of taking charge of a brewery. He began the study of medicine in 1831 at Westminster Hospital, London. In 1833 he went to Edinburgh, where he obtained his degree. Basham returned to Westminster Hospital in 1834 as a clinical assistant, and remained connected with that institution in an official capacity until his death. He is said to have possessed considerable skill as a chemist, botanist, microscopist, and artist. He was a liberal contributor to the medical literature of his time; was a member of the Royal College of Physicians in 1838 and a Fellow in 1850. Basham was elected physician to Westminster Hospital in 1843, and died in London, October 16, 1877.

Blaud's Pills.—These bear the name of Doctor P. B. Blaud, a French physician who was born at Nîmes in 1774, and died at Beaucaire in 1858, thus reaching the very advanced age of eighty-four. Blaud obtained his degree as physician in Paris in 1805, and, despite what is said to have been a large and lucrative practice, contributed many valuable papers and monographs on a variety of medical as well as scientific subjects to the literature of his time.

Donovan's Solution.—This well-known solution of arsenic and mercuric iodide was originated by Michael Donovan, M.R.I.A., an Irish physician resident in Dublin, where he died in 1876 in his eighty-fifth year, having been born in 1791.

Dover's Powder.—This gets its name from Thomas Dover, an English physician, who was born in Warwickshire in 1650, and died in London in 1741. Dover presents quite an interesting and varied life-history. He was educated at Cambridge, where he obtained his degree in 1687. He practised medicine in Bristol for some years. In 1708, with some friends, he fitted out an expedition to the South Sea, and went himself as ship's surgeon. It is said that he had charge of the boat that landed on Juan Fernandez Island, February 2, 1709, and discovered Alexander Selkirk, the supposed original of Defoe's Robinson Crusoe. Selkirk had been marooned on the island by his own crew, and had remained there absolutely alone for four years and four months. He returned to England with Dr. Dover in 1711. After returning from this expedition Dover resumed the practice of medicine in Bristol. He removed to London in 1721, where he published his "Ancient Physician's Legacy," which, among other interesting material, contains a formula for his diaphoretic powder in the chapter on gout.

Fowler's Solution.—Thomas Fowler, the originator of this solution, and probably the first to introduce arsenic into the armamentarium of the physician, was born in York, England, January 22, 1736. He conducted a pharmacy for upwards of fifteen years, and then began the study of medicine in Edinburgh in 1774; he graduated four years later, writing his thesis on the treatment of pox by means of mercury. Fowler began the practice of medicine in Stafford, where he died July 22, 1801.

Glauber's Salt.—Johann Rudolf Glauber was born at Karlstadt, Bavaria, in 1604. He was one of the class of alchemists that began to see the greater possibilities in the practical use of the knowledge that had been gathered in the futile search for the philosopher's stone, and may be considered one of the first of the modern school of chemistry. He was quite a voluminous writer on chemical subjects. The hydrous sodium sulphate, discovered in 1658, was called by Glauber "sal mirabile," and was at first thought to be identical with the "sal enixum" (potassium sulphate) of Paracelsus. Glauber died at Amsterdam in 1668.

Griffiths' Mixture.—This is the anti-hectic or tonic mixture of

Dr. Moses G. Griffiths, who was born in 1720. Griffiths studied at Leyden, where he obtained his degree of M.D. in 1744. He practised for a number of years in London, from whence he removed to Colchester in 1768, where he wrote his "Practical Observations on the Cure of Hectic and Slow Fevers and the Pulmonary Consumption," which was published in 1776.

Hoffmann's Anodyne.—The compound spirit of ether was first prepared by Friederich Hoffmann in the early years of the eighteenth century. Hoffmann was born at Halle, February 19, 1660, and is usually considered one of the leaders of German medicine. Hoffmann was the first professor of medicine at Halle, and was the author of "Systema Medicinæ Rationalis." His dictum that "experience and sense are the basis of medicine" is as true to-day as it was then. Hoffmann died at Halle, November 12, 1742.

James's Powder.—The pulvis febrifugus Jacobi dates back certainly to the middle of the eighteenth century, if not before. In 1754 the origin of this powder was claimed for a German by the name of Schwanberg, while a number of German books credit its origin to Hoffmann, one of the synonyms in use in Germany to-day being "Hoffmann's Spiessglanzkalk." Dr. Robert James, whose name is usually connected with this powder, was a native of Staffordshire, England, having been born in Kinverston in 1703. James studied medicine at St. John's College, Oxford, of which university he was a licentiate. He practised in Sheffield, Litchfield, and Birmingham, and finally settled down in London. Dr. James subsequently obtained the degree of M.D. from Cambridge in 1755. He died in London, March 23, 1776.

Labarraque's Solution.—So called from the celebrated French chemist Antoine Germain Labarraque, who was born at Oloron, May 29, 1777, and died near Paris, December 9, 1850. Labarraque's name is inseparably connected with the discovery and subsequent development of the hypochlorites of lime and soda.

Lugol's Solution.—The introduction of an aqueous solution of iodine in a solution of iodide of potassium is usually credited to J. G. A. Lugol, a French physician, born at Montauban, August 10, 1786. Lugol studied at Paris, where he graduated in 1812. He was physician to the Hospice St.-Louis, to which he had been appointed in 1831. The various strength solutions of iodine in solution of iodide of potassium were originally designated as Lugol's caustic, rubefacient, and stimulant solutions. Lugol wrote a number of dissertations on scrofula, a subject that he was particularly interested in. He died in 1851.

Monsel's Solution.—Leon Monsel, "Pharmacien Major de 1^{re} Classe," was born at St. Ciers, Gironde, in 1816, and died at Nancy in 1877. In 1852, while attached to the Medical Corps of the French army at Rome, Monsel discovered the hæmostatic properties of persulphate of iron.

Tully's Powder.—This perpetuates the name of a one-time professor at Yale College. Dr. William Tully was born in 1785. He commenced the publication of his "Materia Medica, or Pharmacology and Therapeutics," in 1852. Dr. Tully died at Springfield, Mass., February 28, 1859.

Plummer's Pill.—Dr. Andrew Plummer received the elements of his medical education at the University of Edinburgh, and then studied at Leyden, under Boerhave, where he obtained the degree of M.D. in 1722. Returning to Scotland, he was admitted a member of the Royal College of Physicians, and commenced the practice of his profession in Edinburgh. In the preconceived plan of introducing an elaborate course of medical instruction at the University of Edinburgh, Dr. Plummer was to pay particular attention to the study of chemistry, with a view of teaching that branch on his return to Scotland. This plan was adhered to, and Dr. Plummer continued in that branch until 1755, being followed by the celebrated Dr. Cullen. Dr. Plummer resigned the Chair of Chemistry in Edinburgh University in 1755. He died the following year, April 16, 1756.

Vallet's Mass.—But little information is available of M. A. G. Vallet, the originator of this particular form of ferruginous pill, but his name appears repeatedly in the pages of what was then the *Journal de Pharmacie*, now the *Journal de Pharmacie et de Chimie*, as a contributor. For five years, from 1836 to 1840, his name also appears on the title-page as one of the assistant editors. Vallet's article on a new ferruginous preparation was printed in 1838, having been brought to the attention of the French Royal Academy the year before by M. Soubeiran.

SOLUBLE IODINE

was the title of another paper by Mr. Wilbert, and referred to a liquid preparation of iodine, said to be particularly active and freely soluble in water. On examination it was found to be a 2-per-cent. solution of purified iodine in alcohol.

The same author described a method of

MAKING SOLUTIONS OF IODINE,

which consists in putting the iodine in a perforated glass tube and dipping the end in the solvent, the apparatus being

suitably stoppered and placed in a cool dark place while solution is taking place.

SAPO MOLLIS.

Mr. Geo. M. Beringer, in a paper on *sapo mollis* and *lin. saponis mollis*, alluded to the introduction of these drugs into medicine by the German dermatologists. The green-coloured soap, such as is produced by the use of hemp oil, was considered the correct thing. The formulæ for making soft soap are classified as either by the cold process or by heat, generally with the addition of some alcohol. Cold-process soap is, however, too alkaline, and, after reviewing the National Formulary and the U.S.P. recipes, the author devised the following formula as yielding an almost transparent, smooth, greenish-yellow mass. If stirred, after the addition of the alcohol, the soap is opaque from included air:

Linseed oil	...	...	...	40 grams
Malaga olive oil	...	...	...	40 grams
Potash	...	...	...	19 grams
Alcohol	...	...	...	10 c.c.
Water	...	...	...	60 c.c.

Warm the mixed oils on the water-bath to 70° C.; dissolve the potash in the water and warm this also to 70° C., and add to the oils and stir thoroughly. Now add the alcohol, and as soon as this is thoroughly incorporated stop stirring. Continue the heat at this temperature for a short time until saponification is complete, which is evidenced by the mass becoming clear and a portion dissolving in boiling water or alcohol without the separation of oil globules. The finished product will weigh about 140 grams.

In the discussion which followed the reading of this paper Mr. P. J. Remington mentioned that a small quantity of potassium bichromate added during the process of saponification produces a green colour.

PROPRIETARY AND TRADE NAMES.

By Mr. M. I. Wilbert.

Of the several perplexing problems connected with the introduction and sale of the so-called new remedies, the proprietary right vested in the trade-names is probably the most important. From the manufacturer's point of view, the coining of a conveniently short and easily remembered name, which is generally registered, is second in importance only to the fixing of a selling-price that is sufficiently high to insure a liberal profit after allowing for the necessary expenditures for salesmen and advertising. The justice and importance of this, from the manufacturer's point of view, must be conceded. Many of these names are dangerously similar, and are likely to lead to serious misunderstanding and possibly fatal mistakes. The injustice to the public, as well as the pharmacist, is evidenced by the unnecessary duplication of names and titles for substances or mixtures that are not themselves covered by patents. Mr. Wilbert could only suggest, as a remedy for this state of things, to give the subject as much publicity as possible, with a view of calling attention to the injustice done to the public, and the actual menace that the practice must necessarily be to progress along professional lines.

TRADE-MARKS.

In the report of the Committee on Patents and Trade-marks, the following sentence may be taken as representing the general feeling of pharmacists on the proprietary-medicine question:

"The true object of the trade-mark law is to protect the public from counterfeit brand-marks, so that people may be able to discriminate between the various makes of articles of commerce. The function of the trade-mark as a brand-mark cannot be performed in the presence of a monopoly, for when only one brand is possible, what is there to distinguish between? The trade-mark system differs from the so-called proprietary system in this—namely, the trade-mark system stimulates competition between manufacturers of a known article to excel in quality, while the so-called proprietary system stimulates all that is dishonest and unfair in human nature, protects secrecy and fraud, and, by its unfair competition with pharmacy, has nearly ruined the vocation as a remunerative business."

South African News.

(From our own Correspondents.)

Note.—THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is regularly supplied by order to all the members of all the Pharmaceutical Societies in British South Africa, viz.:—

SOUTH AFRICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION.
PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY OF CAPE COLONY.
NATAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
TRANSVAAL PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.
RHODESIA PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

A NUMBER OF DURBAN DRUGGISTS are acting as agents for the municipality by selling books of tram-tickets covering the Corporation electric system.

THE CUSTOMS CONVENTION passed through the Cape Upper House (Legislature Council) on July 28 by a majority of one, which was the casting vote of the President. The Transvaal, Natal, Orange River Colony, South Rhodesia, and Cape Colony will now range into line so far as a Customs tariff is concerned.

TRANSVAAL IMPORTS AND EXPORTS.—The imports into the Transvaal during the first half of the current year amounted to 11,415,044*l.*, as compared with 4,217,698*l.* in the corresponding period of last year. The exports for the same period amounted to 5,708,515*l.*, including gold to the value of 5,579,730*l.*, as compared with a total of 2,852,043*l.* in the first half of 1902.

THE WALKING MANIA.—The Johannesburg Stock Exchange walk from Johannesburg to Pretoria took place prior to the departure of the last mail, and now the chemists of the Cape Peninsula propose walking from Wynberg, *via* Hout's Bay and the Kloof, to Cape Town, Messrs. Lennon's establishment in Long Street being the point of arrival. Some of the principals of the largest Cape houses have entered.

AMONG THE SAVAGES.—The *Cape Times* weekly edition is giving a series of pictures of the wreck of the s.s. *Umona* on the Maldiv Islands in May last. Amongst others is a portrait of Mr. Robert Rowlette Martin, of Messrs. Frederick Stearns & Co., Detroit, Mich., U.S.A., who, it would appear from the descriptive account, acted as custodian of his Majesty's mails and the specie. An American in charge of the British mails and British gold amongst savages is distinctly good.

A CONTRAST.—On February 6, 1901, writes a Transvaal correspondent, three Johannesburg chemists—Messrs. C. Martlew, A. E. Adams, and J. W. Norman—were proceeding to Pretoria on Government duty, when the train was attacked by the enemy at Vlakfontein. The small guard of soldiers was soon overpowered, Mr. Martlew being shot through the scalp and Mr. Adams through the arm. When the white flag went up, the Boers swooped down on the train, went through everyone's pockets and everybody's luggage, and annexed all valuables and articles that could be packed on the backs of horses and mules. Amongst other things, Mr. Martlew lost his British and Transvaal pharmaceutical diplomas, and Mr. Norman his Masonic certificates. After peace was signed and the burghers had returned, Mr. von Geusan, of Heidelberg, wrote to Mr. Blanc, W.M. of Jeppes-town Lodge, intimating that he had in his possession a Masonic certificate, granted by that Lodge to J. W. Norman, and perhaps Mr. Blanc would know of a Mr. C. Martlew, as he also had two pharmaceutical diplomas bearing his name, and he was desirous of returning all these to the original owners. This has now been done, Messrs. Martlew and Norman being naturally very pleased at receiving their certificates in good condition, they and all the local brethren considering it a very graceful act on the part of Mr. von Geusan. As a contrast I may mention the way the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain treated one of their members. Whilst serving with the British troops in the field, the enemy raided the British chemist's store in Johannesburg, and amongst other articles destroyed was his membership certificate. The chemist stated his case to Bloomsbury Square and asked for a new certificate, but it was refused.